

Bits & Chips

of the Gateway Computer Club

VOLUME 11

1994

No. 01-12

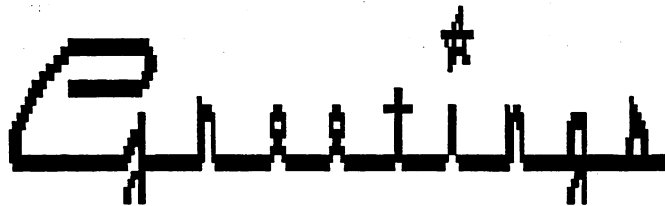
Bits & Chips

of the Gateway Computer Club

Volume 11

January 1994

Number 1



HAPPY NEW YEAR

President's Page

by Mike Taphorn

Happy New Year!!!

Welcome to 1994!!!

Christmas Was In The Air

We had our big christmas party at the December meeting. Thanks to everyone who brought food! Everything was delicious. If you missed the meeting, you missed one of the best Christmas parties ever. We had music, food and a very short business meeting to allow time for everyone to enjoy themselves and eat, drink and be merry...

Volunteers

Demos: Jim T.- Modems???

**Computer: John Hubbard &
Diego Cardenas**

Well, 1993 ended on a good note with a party, so I'll start 1994 on another good note.... A short article.

I hope 1994 turns out to be a good year for everyone.

Happy New Year again and...

See you at the January meeting.

Editor's Note

By Larry Briggs

Sorry I missed the Christmas party, I heard that there was plenty of food and drink, and it was a nice party.

I had an opportunity to visit my Granddaughter in Las Vegas, and it was a very good time to go due to the very low air fare as well as \$30.00 for a 4 day stay at the BALLY Hotel Casino. The hotel made up the balance when I played the Slots, I did not win anything nor did I lose the deed to my home. All in all I had a good time.

Jim Tomlinson is going to do a repeat of the MODEM procedure between two computers and also go on line on a BBs to demonstrate how to look in and download a program. I would like to see all club members with Modems to form a net among ourselves, we can exchange data on line, (who knows I might get something to print in the BITS & CHIPS.) We can form a class for those that need help to do this (I'll be the first to sign up) so lets hear from you at the next meeting. OK..

Our president is compiling a list of all people that will be willing to put on a demo in 1994. we seem to have the same people doing the demo's, we need new faces up there to show us something new, maybe a new color printer or a Scanner, there must be some of you that will want to show off something. Let the Pres. know..

Reports

The Club

The Gateway Computer Club is a not for profit organization of like-minded computer users. Membership fee is \$15.00 per year. Members receive access to the club's public domain library, educational programs, literature and monthly Bits & Chips Newsletter.

Direct all membership applications and questions to the Gateway Computer Club c/o P.O.Box 1839, Fairview Heights, IL 62206.

Only public domain programs are kept in the G.C.C. library. Reproduction of copyrighted software is not promoted nor condoned by the G.C.C. and will not be tolerated at club functions.

The Officers

PRES: Mike Taphorn.....345-2197
V.P.: Diego Cardenas.....624-6493
SEC: John Hubbard.....345-1934
TRES: Ken Welker.....234-5901
EDITOR: Larry Briggs.....345-0220
LIBR: Richard Koerper.....452-5110
ASST LIBR: (AMIGA).....Jim Tomlinson
ASST LIBR: (MS-DOS).....Ken Welker
MEMBERSHIP: Larry Briggs.....345-0220

Bits & Chips

Please direct all submissions and advertising to Editor Larry Briggs, 1021 Lafayette Ct. Collinsville, IL 62234. Camera ready advertising must be received by the first of the month to be included in the issue of the month.

Rates are as follows: Full page- \$15.00, Half page- \$7.50, Quarter page- \$3.75, and business card- \$10.00 for 6 months.

Contents of the Bits & Chips may be reprinted by other club newsletters if accompanied by the author's name and credit is given to the GATEWAY COMPUTER CLUB. The G.C.C. assumes no liability for errors in articles or advertisements.

Membership Report

Larry Briggs

As of January 1st-1994 we have 40 active members in our club.

Lets all give a big welcome to new members. None.

THANKS AGAIN for continuing their membership with us. None.

I would like to inform these members that their membership will expire this Coming meeting. Joel Hillyard, Donald Koenig, Ted Hartman, Nathan Price, and Diego Cardenas.

This Member will be dropped as he has not renewed his membership. None.

If you have any questions about your membership, See Larry Briggs at the meeting, or call 345-0220.

Treasure's Report

By Ken Welker

Balance DEC,1,1993.....\$693.27

I D.O.M. SALES AMIGA...\$ 26.00
N D.O.M. SALES IBM.....\$ 14.00
C BLANK DISKS 3.5.....\$ 0.00
O BLANK DISKS 5.25.....\$ 0.00
M MEMBERSHIP.....\$ 60.00
E 50/50 RAFFLE.....\$ 7.50

DEC. INCOME.....\$107.50

E
X Blank 3 1/2" Disks.....\$120.75
P NEWS LETTER.....\$ 30.85
E POSTAGE.....\$ 11.60
N
S
E
S

OCT. EXPENSES.....\$163.20

CURRENT BALANCE.....\$637.57
AS OF JAN. 1, 1994

Amiga D.O.M. JAN. 94

by Jim Tomlinson

MMPATCH - Here is a patch to allow the game Marble Madness to run on the new AGA machines and from your harddrive.

NEWWORLD - If you like the Ultima series of adventure games, this is for you.

PICCON - PicCon is short for Picture Converter. This is a utility made for programmers, which will convert any picture format you've got support for in your datatypes library to an appropriate RAW format. This is an essential stage mainly in the development of games, but is also useful in development of other software (like demos, applications, etc.). Not only whole pictures can be converted, but also parts of pictures can be cut out to be saved as e.g. sprites or small bitplanes.

SCION - This is a specialised database for keeping track of genealogical information. It features a full, easy to use, Intuition interface with key short-cuts for most gadgets. The program is totally non-sexist and secular in nature, and correctly handles multiple marriages, "unconventional" marriages, adopted children, and unmarried parents.

STATRAM2.2 - A completely rewritten recoverable ram drive based on ASDG's VDO:

MS-DOS D.O.M. JAN. 94

Ken Welker

PHYLOX:

This is a demo version of our shareware game named *PHYLOX*. It is a true shoot-em-up featuring 256 colour graphics (Real ones!) and some of the best animated characters you have ever seen. Get the registered version and receive all the levels with full Sound Blaster support.

The end of level guardians are as big as you would see on any of the consoles at half the price! We have been working on it for over a year with the intention of proving the PC is worthy of good arcade action. It is a blast from the past with a 90's feel about it. Play it with the lights out to get the most out of it. You need a computer with at least a 12mhz processor and a decent VGA card. PLEASE copy it to anyone who may be interested. The full version costs 24.95

The game takes just over 1.2 meg of space. (Best run from a hard drive)

PY.EXE - Intro + Game (Please watch this at least once!)

PMAIN.EXE - Skip intro game only VGA only 12mhz and above 640k ram 480k free. The demo contains the first two levels. The game includes the instructions. Have Fun!

SOLRWINDS:

Solar Winds combines both fast-action arcade excitement with a detailed story that develops as you progress through the game! With 256-color VGA graphics and a beautifully-orchestrated musical sound track, this 1993 Epic MegaGames release will keep you entertained for many hours of play.

In Solar Winds, you play the role of Jake Stone, bounty hunter. As you explore the galaxy on various missions, you'll fend off hostile attackers to achieve your goals. Meanwhile, a dark and mysterious plot develops as you progress. The nature of the plot won't be fully revealed until you solve Solar Winds.

Solar Winds is situated in space and features smooth-scrolling 256-color graphics as you navigate around the galaxy. In addition to using your arcade skills, Solar Winds requires quite a bit of strategy to master.

Solar Winds consists of two separate, unique episodes:

1. The Escape
2. Universe

NOTE:

Both PHYLOX.EXE and SOLRWIND.EXE are self extracting zip files.

TELIX

Telix is a full-featured communications program for PCs running the PC/MS-DOS operating system, that is able to meet the needs of almost any user. Telix features include:

~ An extensive range of built-in file transfer protocols, including Zmodem, Compuserve Quick B, Xmodem, Xmodem-1k, Xmodem-1k-g, Ymodem (TRUE), Ymodem-g, Kermit, SEALink, Telink, Modem7, and ASCII.

Telix allows up to four 'external' protocols to be defined and

Cont on page 4.

Ms-DOS D.O.M.

called from within Telix. In this way, almost any kind of file transfer is possible from within Telix.

~ Powerful multiple dialing directories, holding up to 1000 entries each. An entry contains many pieces of information required for communicating with remote services, such as the phone number and communications parameters.

WHERE'S THE MAGAZINES?

We've all heard stories that the 64 is dead. What makes a computer alive? Just because a magazine ceases its publication, doesn't mean that the subject it relates to is no longer of concern to everyone. Yes, it was a big disappointment when RUN magazine decided to call it quits. But it was also a shame when Ahoy did the same thing a few years ago. How about the Transactor? That magazine really brought out the strength of the 64 and 128. If you wanted to find out about the latest piece of software before spending the big bucks on it, you might have picked up an issue of Info and read a review about it first. That magazine is also gone. The most recent publication to fall by the wayside is GeoVision International. There were big hopes for this one. After just 3 issues, it is all done. Word has it that the founder is trying to find a buyer for the publication in hopes that it may continue. There are many unfulfilled subscriptions on this magazine that was aimed solely at GEOS, will go the same route as GeoWorld and the Geo Journal and will be yet another collector's item.

These were also very excellent magazines and they were produced with 64's and 128's. What happened to some of these magazines? If you pay attention to names, you might notice that many of the authors and editors and other contributors to these magazines are still in the business. These people were good. Other magazines noticed this. Some were offered bigger salaries. Others went searching for bigger salaries. Without people, you can't do much. Some magazines simply felt that they weren't making enough money, and that is very possible. Without enough money coming in, there just isn't much sense in continuing. Anyway, there are still a few good publications catering to the Commodore 64 and 128. They need your support in order to thrive, Compute Magazine (Gazette Edition) - Compute magazine caters mainly to the IBM world, but if you specify that you want the special Gazette edition, you will receive the same magazine with a 64/128 section in the middle of about 40 or so pages. You might enjoy having the remainder of the magazine to learn about the latest in hardware for MS-DOS machines.

Remember that the 64 and 128 can control the same printers that an IBM machine can. You might also find interesting articles pertaining to Desktop Publishing that would apply to some of the work that you might wish to do. Twin Cities 128 has been around almost since the inception of the 128. And now it caters to 64's also. Renamed TC-128/64 and now controlled by John Brown of Parsec, this magazine continues to bring the latest in what's happening in Commodore hardware and software. Die Hard magazine has

been around for a little over a year and appears to be an excellent publication. Check this one out.

There are a few more available in addition to the ones mentioned here and we will publish the information as we receive it. And don't forget Loadstar and Loadstar 128. There is now a newsletter included with the disk subscription that is being experimented with right now. And it looks good.

DIE HARD MAGAZINE P.O. Box 392 ID 83701 Single issue- \$1.75 10 issues/year \$15.00

COMPUTE GAZETTE P.O.Box 3244 Harian IA 51593-2424 1-800-727-6937 12 issues/year \$12.97 (be sure to specify the Gazette edition)

TWIN CITIES 128/64 % Parsec, Inc. P.O.Box 111 Salem MA 01970-0111 Six issues-\$24.00 Magazine \$40.00 Magazine & disk.

Reprint from: The Computer Chronicle, The Newsletter of the Harrisburg Area Computer Group.

Making 3 1/2" HD Disks of DSDD Disks

by Phil Anderson

Reprint from the Harrisburg Area Computer club.

There has been controversy on "Punching" 720K disks to simulate the 1.44Meg disks, and then formatting them at HD. Some say it works fine, some say not, I recently acquired 10 nondescript 720K disks, punched to allow formatting at 1.44Meg. I began by reformatting them at 720K on a DSDD drive, to assure myself that they were all OK. They all formatted fully, with no errors, and no "Track retries." (The buzzing sound the drive makes when it has to reverify or reformat a track.) Then I formatted them on a HD (High Density) drive. All formatted OK, but there were 1 to 6 track retries necessary, 42 altogether, on the 10 disks. Thinking that the change of format was possibly responsible I reformatted a random sample of the "punched" disk, 1 or 2 retries occurred on each of the four disks retested. As a control, four new formatted, generic, HD disks were formatted. No track retries occurred. What does all this mean? The results are inconclusive, except that good DSDD disks formatted at HD would probably be classed as seconds by any reputable disk supplier, and, as such, would be worth less than as good DSDD disks. I plan to put a "Dot" sticker over the bottom of the "Punch," reformat them as 720Ks, and use them that way.

FOR SALE

Large Office Desk, Storage and File Drawers. \$100.00
Computer Work Station, 6'x7' Corner unit. \$100.00
Roadmaster Tread Mill, Model 9855. The tread is 6 ft. long with a 3/4 hp motor, it has a speed per hour, calories burned, and time lapse indicators.

This unit is like new. paid \$400.00 take \$250.00
Call John Hubbard 345-1934

MINUTES

By John Hubbard

There was no business meeting last month due to the Christmas party, so there is nothing to report this month. So I will take this opportunity to wish everyone a HAPPY and PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR.

Diego's Diary

Experiences with the AMIGA

Looking back at my diaries, I see that I tend to focus on computer hardware or applications of computer hardware. This month is no exception!

Perhaps it's my engineering degree that draws me to computer hardware. I've always been fascinated by machinery, mechanics, and technology. What draws me to the Amiga is not the software that is available but the potential software made possible by the Amiga computer hardware.

With that said, I now move on to the hardware that I will focus on in this article -- hard drives. This particular piece of hardware I believe is one of the devices that revolutionized the computer industry and kept the industry progressing when others floundered. How many of us can remember (maybe from earlier today for some of us) loading a "large" 30K program off the disk drive or heaven forbid, the tape drive on the Commodore 64? Although IBM computers had faster disk drives, these "removable" media were not keeping up with the power and speed of computers.

Enter the fixed, hard drive. Fast by floppy standards, capable of storing vast amounts of information by floppy standards, this hardware made possible larger programs, more sophisticated programs, and ultimately, programs that placed a great strain on system resources. This created a market for faster computers with more memory and the cycle continues today.

What is a hard drive? Although exact specifications vary, the hard drive is basically a floppy drive sealed in a vacuum. With no air in the system, the drive can spin faster (about 10 times the speed of most floppy drives). Also, with no dust or smoke particles in the hard drive environment, the head that reads the

information off the magnetic disc can be much closer to the disc and with some hocus pocus electrical engineering calculations, this means that more information can be stored on a disc the same size as a floppy disc.

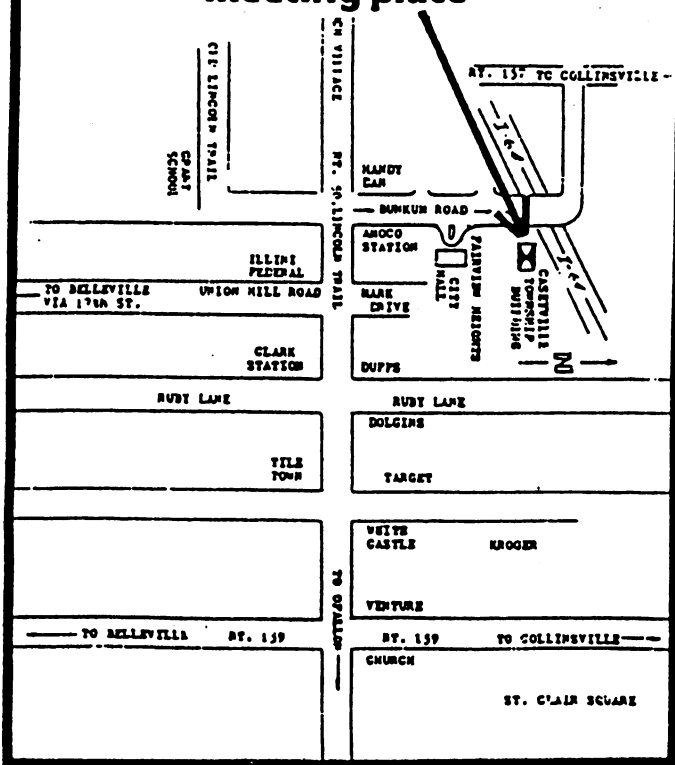
What are the different specifications of a hard drive? The first thought is always size. How large of a hard drive do you need? For a hobbyist who is tired of swapping discs for Workbench, a few utilities, and a lot of games, then 40-60 megs is plenty. For a programmer that needs many editors, languages, support files, different versions of the operating system, then 100 megs is the minimum. Then there is the power user. Maybe a video buff that creates animations are other artwork. 200, 300, or even 500 megs may not be enough.

Another concern is how to hook the hard drive up to the computer. Many different interfaces with their own advantages and disadvantages exist. The 2 most common types of interfaces found on the Amiga are SCSI (popularized by Macintosh computers) and IDE (popularized by IBM clones). IDE drives are cheaper for a given size and plenty fast. Up to 2 IDE drives can be connected to an interface. This will suit most hobbyists' needs. SCSI interfaces can connect up to 7 devices and tend to be favored by the more professional user. I say devices because CD-ROM drives and magnetic tape drives can also be connected to a SCSI interface. SCSI devices tend to be faster than the equivalent IDE device and the speed does not come at the expense of processor time. A hard drive that is SCSI compatible will not work with an IDE interface and vice versa. However, an IDE hard drive that a friend has on their clone will work on an Amiga with an IDE interface (after a high level format is performed).

Did I say high level format? What is that you are probably asking? You are probably familiar with formatting a floppy disk in order to make it usable by your system. A hard drive also needs to be formatted. A low level format lays out the geometry of the disc, that is, the number of tracks and where they are located. IDE hard drive come low level formatted already. A high level format prepares the hard disc to receive your data much like a floppy disc format.

See you next month! I hope to have an article on Amiga computing in France when I return. Au revoir.

Gateway Computer Club meeting place



GCC Directory

Next Meeting:

January 19th. 1994 7:00pm

Next Exec. Bd. Meeting:

Feb. 2nd 1994 7:00pm
At the WESTERN SIZZLIN
Fairview Heights, IL

Next Copy Session:

AT ALL REGULAR MEETINGS

Visitors Always Welcome

At Meetings

Meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at the Caseyville Township Hall, 10010 Bunkum Road in Fairview Heights



GATEWAY COMPUTER CLUB
P.O. Box 1839
Fairview Heights, IL 62208



Check your dues date!

First



Bits & Chips

of the Gateway Computer Club

Volume 11

February 1994

Number 2

President's Page

by Mike Taphorn

Hello From The Pres...

LESS EXPENSIVE BLANK DISKS

After ordering the last batch of blank disks for the club, the board members decided that we need to lower our blank disk prices to be more competitive with the local computer stores. So the new prices are as follows:

Low Density 3 1/2" \$ 0.30

High Density 3 1/2" \$ 0.50

The club will not make as much money per disk, but hopefully our volume will increase to make up the difference.

DISK OF THE MONTH CLUB

A new Disk Of The Month Club Card will be available at the next meeting. The card will cost \$10.00 and it will be worth 12 Disk's Of The Month or Special Disks. This will reduce the cost for a years worth of disks from \$24.00 to \$10.00. Hopefully more of our members will take advantage of this new lower pricing and our disk sales will increase.

Flyers Flyers Flyers

At the last few meetings I've asked for volunteers to work on a flyer for the club to distribute to local computer dealers. A flyer should help advertise our club to prospective computer users. Diego Cardenas our Vice President started the ball rolling by creating a sample flyer. We'll take a look at it at the meeting and see what we think we should do next.

AMIGA IBM APPLE Groups

At the last meeting we discussed the fact that many of our members now own IBM compatible systems. Being an Amiga owner I try not to be biased towards the Amiga as far as the meetings are concerned. Back in August I tried seperating the business meeting into different sections to ensure that all of the computer users

questions would be addressed. This met with little enthusiasm.

At the last board meeting, the board members and I decided to try a different approach. We will have a common business meeting for all members and then we will break up into smaller groups for individual Amiga and IBM (& Apple) open sessions. I hope that this will guarantee a fun time for all of our members. We plan on having an Amiga 500 & an IBM compatible at every meeting for everyone to use if necessary.

Classes

The board members also discussed the possibility of having classes to help the new users with their computers. If there is enough interest, we plan on starting out with a beginner level classes for both the Amiga and the IBM compatibles that would take place during the open portion of the meetings. As time progresses, we will have more advanced classes for word processors, spreadsheets and anything else that interests our members.

DEMO

Tom McDonald offered to bring his flatbed scanner to the next meeting. He will demonstrate how to digitize pictures. Please feel free to bring in any pictures that you would like scanned into the computer...

SEE YOU AT THE MEETING....

Editor's Note

By Larry Briggs

I read in the newspaper that Scot Smith who runs the Plato Computer store in Wood River Il, has been indicted for tax evasion. We may loose another Amiga store in this area.

I have joined the Ms-DOS gang, I bought an 66mh tower with all the goodies, including a CD rom drive. A man must have his toys.

Reports

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LIBR: Richard Koerper.....452-5110
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ASST LIBR: (MS-DOS).....Ken Welker
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Bits & Chips

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THANKS AGAIN for continuing his membership with us. Diego Cardenas.

I would like to inform these members that their membership will expire this Coming meeting. Inge Liggett Bill Jacks and Carlos Mariles.

These Members will be dropped as they have not renewed their membership. Donald Koenig, Ted Hartman. Joel Hillyard, and Bill Broda.

If you have any questions about your membership, See Larry Briggs at the meeting, or call 345-0220.

Treasure's Report

By Ken Welker

Balance Jan. 1, 1994.....637.57

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N D.O.M. SALES IBM.....\$ 10.00
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O BLANK DISKS 5.25.....\$ 0.00
M MEMBERSHIP.....\$ 0.00
E 50/50 RAFFLE.....\$ 7.00

JAN. INCOME.....\$100.25

E
X
P NEWS LETTER.....\$ 30.85
E POSTAGE.....\$ 15.66
N P.O. BOX RENTAL.....\$ 46.50
S
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JAN. EXPENSES.....\$ 93.01

CURRENT BALANCE.....\$644.81
AS OF FEB. 1, 1994

Amiga D.O.M. FEB. 94

by Jim Tomlinson

3DO-INFO - A comparison between the 3DO, Jaguar and CD32. It seems to be slanted toward 3DO but does give some other interesting facts.

AmiFlick - Have you ever wanted to use your Amiga to handle all those zillions of FLI files for PeeCee's? Well, now there's AmiFlick. It can play FLI's or write them to disk as a bunch of IFF's. It can also handle the newer format of FLI's (sometimes called FLC's).

PVTREE - PVTTree is an utility to see the full (or part) directory tree of any disks devices like HardDisk, Floppy Disk, Ram,... in a graphic window.

SAFEHARBOUR - A catalog from a mail-order Ami supply company that seems to have alot of neat stuff.

SUPERDARK - If you have been impressed by the PC windows screen blanker AFTERDARK; you are ready for this program. SuperDark runs under OS2.0 or greater and does all the blanking effects of AFTERDARK plus a score of new ones.

Systems Integration Center, Inc

there is a Computer store in Collinsville, IL, 224 Vandalia St. 346-8429, Jack Shipley Pres, that will build Ms- Dos machines to your specifications, at a lower price than the discount houses, and will be there if you have any problems with it. That is more than you can get from a mail order store.

The store is also running a Bulletin Board, 346-8399, that Jack told me any member of the Gateway Computer Club may log on and download files after being validated. FREE

If you are looking to buy an IBM clone stop in and talk to either Jack or Marvin, either one will be glad to give you a quote on a machine.

For Sale

Computer Table, Compact unit,\$50.00
Word Processor. W/Monitor, Printer and Disk
drive built in. Like New.....\$200.00
Call Larry Briggs....345.0220

LIBRARIANS REPORT

By Dick Koerper

From the Librarian's Shelves

Well my case was kind of jumped because I did not have an article for the newsletter last month so I am making sure that I have one this month I can guarantee you. Well Jim gave me two briefcases full of public domain disks , and as I understand it this is just part of our library. There are so many programs that I have just begun to go through the library and see what is available to our club members . Rest assured though that in just the few disks I have gone through I have noticed a plethora of useful programs that would be a welcomed edition to anyone's personal library . Cataloging this expansive library is going to prove to be a pleasant challenge , albeit one that I am going to have to postpone until I can either get my printer fixed or replace it . Does anyone know how well those Epson 24 pin Action Printers interface with the Amiga 3000 and what printer driver I would use , I have seen them at Wal-Mart at a good price but wonder if they are worth it , help please .

WARNING

While going through the past disks of the month I discovered the "LamerExterminatorVirus" on disks; March and April of 1992 and June of 1989. These viruses have been eradicated from the clubs copy of these disks, I would strongly suggest that if you have any of these disks in your archives that you run them through a good virus detector.

Just a little description of one of the programs that is fun to use, "Hamsharp" is an interesting program that probably should make a comeback on a future disk of the month. Ever notice that when viewing a GIF file using the GIF viewer that is on some of the disks that the files are in black and white even though they are supposed to be in color? Well Hamsharp is the program you need, not only does it convert the GIF file into an Amiga compatible IFF file , it restores the colors.

Well that's all for now, see you at the meeting and will write more for next month.

MS-DOS D.O.M. FEB. 94

Ken Welker

The list of programs is too large to list this month, a full listing will be attached to the disk.

There is a plethora of UTILITIES on this month's D.O.M. A must buy...

Learning Computers tries one's patience.

An Article from the Austin-American Statesman.

After a few classes to help us become computer literate, we have aquired a little learning - just about enough to get us lost in DOS and trapped in "Trump".

First let me explain to those of you who don't have a computer taking over your life that things are not what they seem in the language of these high-tech whizzes, which is why some of us find computerland more of a blunderland than a wonderland.

For instance, DOS is "two" in Spanish, right? Wrong! DOS is computerese for a sort of imaginary container with a bunch of things you can't touch or handle that are supposed to be very useful once you learn how to get them out of the imaginary container.

Kids grow up nowadays knowing all this stuff, but it's very confusing for their grandmas and grandpas. Computers have menus, but you never get a decent meal from one. They have disks, but not like the ones in your backbone. They have drives and paths, but no streets. Directories, but no yellow pages. Hardware but no hammers. Software but no pillows. Our computer even has a mouse, but Timex, our cheap watchdog, doesn't give a hoot.

My husband was working at the computer the other day when he called me to come help. On the screen was a message that kept appearing again and again. "Why don't you get rid of that?" I asked. He not only did not know how to get rid of it, he had no idea how it got there. But every time he touched a key - any key - another copy of the message was added to those already on the monitor screen.

We pushed the "help" key, which will surely be the first to wear out on our keyboard. We pushed "escape", we tried to type "exit," we tried the "undo" key, and each try gave us another copy of that cryptic message.

Mark Schulz, our computer teacher, told us if we got in a bind to call him. We got his answering machine. We dialed the number of our computer-literate son, then remembered he was out of town. "Maybe we should boot it," my husband said. "Good idea!" I said. "You wanna get the first kick in or shall I?" Whereupon he explained to me that booting means restarting the system by turning it off, waiting a few seconds and turning it back on. The books have all kinds of cautions about when you shouldn't do this, but we booted anyhow and it worked.

We've gotten smarter since then. We've

even found out how to play games on our computer, which is lots of fun until you do something stupid that locks up the works. It happened to us as we played blackjack with a game called "Trump." I pushed the wrong key, then tried to right it by pushing another wrong key twice. Bingo! The screen went blank except for a tiny cursor in the upper left hand corner. It wouldn't go anywhere or do anything, it just sat there and blinked at us. Time to boot again!

We're hanging in there with the lessons. We may even become proficient with this thing, in time. But there's one feature listed that I have no intention of trying, ever. It's called "Windows." Wouldn't you think this computer is smart enough to know I don't do windows?

MINUTES

By John Hubbard

Minutes Jan 94 :

The President opened the meeting at 7:05pm.

All board members were present with the exception of Secretary, John Hubbard.. This is the reason, I, The Editor am writing this report.

Two visitors were introduced, Ricky Keller Sr. of Collinsville and H.L.Kilgus of Fairview Heights. Newsletters will be mailed to both, with the hope that they will become members of the club.

The Minutes and Financial reports were accepted as printed in the Bits & Chips.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding this years activities. It was suggested that the members take in a ball game as a group, Bowling was also mentioned. A notepad was passed around for suggestions as to what members would liketo see demonstrated each month. There were a few volunteers to Demo something that will be of interest for all the members.

After a short recess, Jim Tomlinson was to demo sending data between two computers via modem, or null cable, BUT, equipment failure prevented him from doing so. It seem that the C500 had a blown CIA chip. Another day Jim...

Diego's Diary Experiences with the AMIGA

Bon jour. I'm back from my 4th trip to Paris and ready to write again. Yes, my trip was good. It's hard not to have a fun time with all the culture, food, and family surrounding you.

Now for that burning question on all your minds I'm sure: What is computing like in Europe? Not sure if I can give an authoritative answer to this question but I can give you my impressions of computing in the Paris area and Brussels, Belgium.

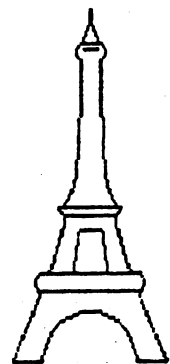
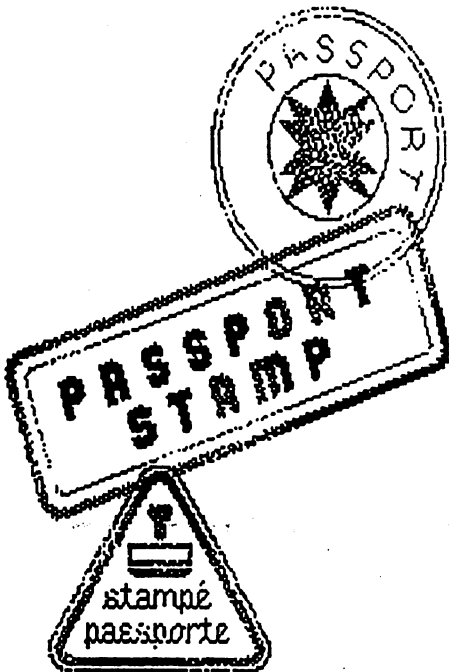
First off, there seems to be a greater variety of Amiga magazines available for sale. British magazine predominate (even in these 2 French speaking countries!). I saw Amiga World available as well but not Amazing Computing. Overall, most news shops had at least 2 different Amiga magazines for sale and book stores could have as many as 5 different ones available. French Amiga magazines tended to have English titles (like "Amiga Dream"). Pretty much all magazines came with a disk included and tended to have more articles than our American magazines. I did not see any Belgian Amiga magazines but they did carry German, British, and French ones.

I did not see any commercials on TV or billboards, etc. advertising the Amiga. However, Macintosh advertisements were to be found in abundance. IBM magazines dominated the shelves just like the U.S.. CD³² machines were available in abundance. I found them in an Amiga store in Paris, an electronics store (similar to Circuit City) called Fnac stacked 2 deep about 6 feet high, covered well in articles in French magazines, and software available at quite a few locations (like mall software stores in addition to the aforementioned locations).

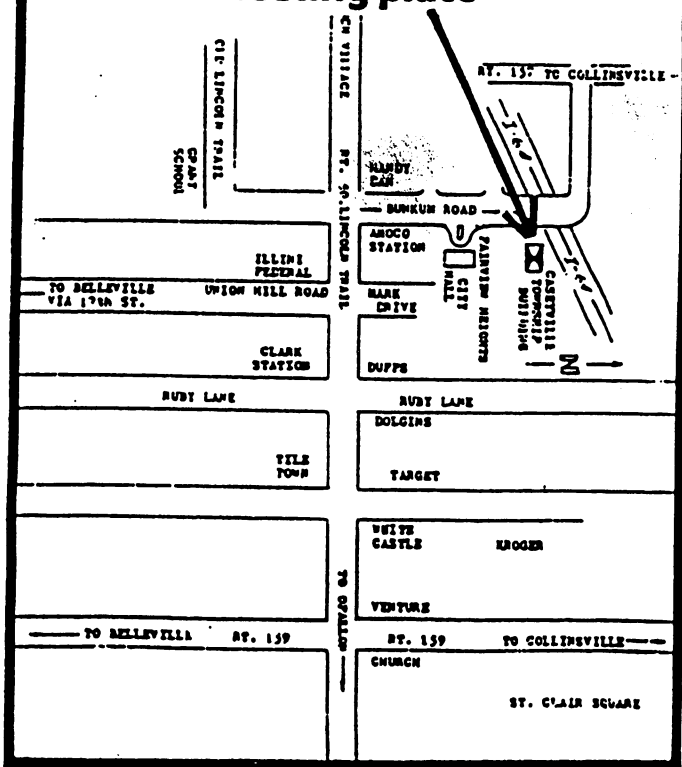
I was itching to buy a CD³² from the computer dealer but he assured me that there was no way to get the machine to work with U.S. televisions. He did think that CD³²s sold in Germany, Italy, and England could be modified to work with U.S. televisions though. The price in Paris for CD³² was about \$329 and came with a game called Sensible Soccer and the Commodore CD³² introduction CD-ROM disk.

Other than this, I don't have much more to say about computing in France. I don't know of anyone there with an Amiga computer (or Mac, or IBM clone) but I do have 2 relatives with a computer called the Amstraad. This computer reminds me of Commodore C=64s as far as look and feel goes as well and capabilities.

Now, if anyone wants to know about Le Manikin Pis, L'Huitre, EuroDisneyland, or the Mona Lisa, then catch me at the next general meeting and I'll have a lot more to say.



Gateway Computer Club meeting place



GCC Directory

Next Meeting:

February 16th 1994

Next Exec. Bd. Meeting:

March 2nd 1994 at 7:00pm
At the Western Sizzlin
FAIRVIEW Heights, Il.

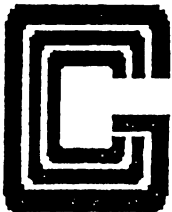
Next Copy Session:

At all Regular Meetings

Visitors Always Welcome

At Meetings

Meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at the Caseyville Township Hall, 10010 Bunkum Road in Fairview Heights



GATEWAY COMPUTER CLUB
P.O. Box 1839
Fairview Heights, IL 62208



Check your dues date!

First Class

Bits & Chips

of the Gateway Computer Club

Volume 11

March 1994

Number 3

President's Page

by Mike Taphorn

Hello From The Pres...

THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU

Either the lower prices for the blanks or Spring Fever caused the blank & D.O.M. disk sales to go up quite dramatically at the February meeting. I hope the trend continues....Thanks to everyone who purchased disks at the last meeting.

DISK OF THE MONTH CLUB

The new Disk Of The Month Club Card idea got off to a slow start at the February meeting because we couldn't find the old membership cards that we had planned on using for the D.O.M. cards.

Larry Briggs our editor has volunteered to have some cards ready for the March meeting. The cards will cost \$10.00 and will be worth 12 Disk Of The Month's or Special Disks. Make sure you thank Larry for all the work he did to make special cards for us to use.

AMIGA IBM APPLE Groups

At the last meeting we had a common business meeting for all the members and then we broke up into smaller groups for individual Amiga and IBM (& Apple) open sessions. I think that this was a great success and everyone had fun.

If you agree or disagree with me on this subject please speak up at the next meeting and let me know what you think.

D.O.M. DEMONSTRATIONS

I think everyone enjoyed finding out what was on the D.O.M.'s last month during the open session of the meeting. So...the board members and I decided that having a D.O.M. demonstration at every meeting would probably be a good idea. From now on, we are going to try to demonstrate the D.O.M.'s at every meeting. I for one enjoyed finding out what was on them and I hope it interests you too.

DEMO

The demonstration that I thought was going to happen at the last meeting is going to happen this month instead. Tom McDonald offered to bring his flatbed scanner to the next meeting. He will demonstrate how to digitize pictures. Please feel free to bring in any pictures that you would like scanned into the computer...

SEE YOU AT THE MEETING....

Editor's Note

By Larry Briggs

I'm sorry I missed the last meeting, but I had the worst head cold that eventually turned into a chest cold. Some antibiotics from the doctor did clear it up. I did not want to come to the meeting and spread it around.

This month's news letter will only be 4 pages, seems that the contributors have developed writers cramps. That happens to all of us. As you can see that happens to me too, look at the dribble that I write...

Our President is trying to make our meetings more interesting, I understand that at the last meeting, the disk's of the month were demonstrated with great interest, it has been decided that this will be a regular function at all the future meetings, as well as other things that can be thought up.

I am having a lot of fun playing with my new MsDOS machine, BUT, it sure is not an AMIGA, It can do a lot of things, and do them well, but not with the ease that it can be done using the AMIGA. Much of the software in MsDOS is priced much higher than the AMIGA. Microsoft Words for windows street price \$300.00 and Final Copy for the AMIGA II that just as good, sells for \$90.00.

If you chose to purchase an IBM clone I would suggest that you purchase the largest hard drive you can afford, mine is a 340 meg and it is almost half full. Most of the programs are 5 & 6 high density disks, compressed, that take up as much as 7 to 10 megs of hard disk space, a hard disk will fill up fast. Ask John Hubbard.

I will also miss the April meeting, I will be languishing on the beach in Florida for three weeks, going down to watch my granddaughter graduate from nursing school. See you in May.

Reports

The Club

The Gateway Computer Club is a not-for-profit organization of like-minded computer users. Membership fee is \$15.00 per year. Members receive access to the club's public domain library, educational programs, literature and monthly Bits & Chips Newsletter.

Direct all membership applications and questions to the Gateway Computer Club c/o P.O.Box 1839, Fairview Heights, IL 62206.

Only public domain programs are kept in the G.C.C. library. Reproduction of copyrighted software is not promoted nor condoned by the G.C.C. and will not be tolerated at club functions.

The Officers

PRES: Mike Taphorn.....345-2197
V.P.: Diego Cardenas.....624-6493
SEC: John Hubbard.....345-1934
TRES: Ken Welker.....234-5901
EDITOR: Larry Briggs.....345-0220
LIBR: Richard Koerper.....452-5110
ASST LIBR: (AMIGA).....Jim Tomlinson
ASST LIBR: (MS-DOS).....Ken Welker
MEMBERSHIP: Larry Briggs.....345-0220

Bits & Chips

Please direct all submissions and advertising to Editor Larry Briggs, 1021 Lafayette Ct. Collinsville, IL 62234. Camera ready advertising must be received by the first of the month to be included in the issue of the month.

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Contents of the Bits & Chips may be reprinted by other club newsletters if accompanied by the author's name and credit is given to the GATEWAY COMPUTER CLUB. The G.C.C. assumes no liability for errors in articles or advertisements.

Membership Report

Larry Briggs

As of March 1st.-1994 we have 43 active members in our club.

Lets all give a big welcome to new members. Ricky G. Keller, Sr. and Henry Kilgus, both are from Collinsville, IL.

THANKS AGAIN for continuing their membership with us. None.

I would like to inform these members that their membership will expire this Coming meeting. Norman Collins, John Hubbard, Brian Goedelman, and Leonard Moore.

These Members will be dropped as they have not renewed their membership. Bill Jacks, Inge Liggett, and Carlos B. Mariles.

If you have any questions about your membership, See Larry Briggs at the meeting, or call 345-0220.

Treasure's Report

By Ken Welker

Balance Feb. 1, 1994.....\$644.81

I D.O.M. SALES AMIGA.....\$ 32.00
N D.O.M. SALES IBM.....\$ 26.00
C BLANK DISKS 3.5.....\$ 108.00
O BLANK DISKS 5.25.....\$ 0.00
M MEMBERSHIP.....\$ 30.00
E 50/50 RAFFLE.....\$ 8.00

FEB. INCOME.....\$204.00

E
X
P NEWS LETTER.....\$ 33.20
E POSTAGE.....\$ 10.44
N BLANK DISKS.....\$254.25
S
E
S

FEB. EXPENSES.....\$ 297.89

CURRENT BALANCE.....\$538.97
AS OF MAR. 1, 1994

Amiga D.O.M. MAR. 94

by Jim Tomlinson

ADAM - Amiga users have always enjoyed being able to produce animations in the native resolutions. Up to now, the HAM format has been the best you could get and had certain limitations and quirks. Today, new output devices permit higher resolutions and more colors available than the native Amiga display modes. One such product is DCTV by Digital Creations. DCTV is a display device that allows one to display to any composite output device with the resolution and color capabilities as that of NTSC. Also, since DCTV's file format is a modified IFF type, you can use any of the available programs to view and construct both still images and animations in NTSC color! Although animations are possible, it hasn't been easy. Enter ADAM. ADAM let's you do this without having to write scripts or use the CLI as ADAM is written with CANDO.

QUADRACOMPOSER - A really nice music composition program.

QUICKFILE - A flexible, fast and easy to use flat file database using random access with intelligent buffering to minimise disk access, multiple indexes for fast access to records; form and list style screens and reports, and fast sorting and searching. Files are quickly and easily defined, and fields can be added, changed or deleted at any time.

MS-DOS D.O.M. MAR. 94

Ken Welker & Tom McDonald

A collection of GAFX TOOLS.

Most of the Docs are included... if no DOCS, then usually when typing the command a help menu appears.

(And as a Bonus, I've included some great pics to experiment with!)

For Sale

Amiga 500 w/1 meg Mem, and floppy drive
GVP 52 Meg Hard Drive W/2 meg Mem.
Slot for IBM CARD.
Extra 3.5" Floppy disk drive.
1084S Color Monitor
Some Software. All for \$500.00, Neg..
PLEASE CALL 234-8926.

LIBRARIANS REPORT

By Dick Koerper

The Librarians Shelves

The article this week is going to be short and sweet. It seems that it is getting harder and harder to obtain computer time as my wife is starting to discover some of the excellent games programs in our public domain library.

I am going to briefly touch on two of these programs today. These programs are Interferon and Klondike.

Klondike as you can probably imagine is a game of solitaire, actually it is a rather well done version of the solitaire game of Klondike. This program is actually shareware and what is included in our library is a working demo version. As far as I can tell the only difference between this version and the shareware version is after a few games a nagging message comes up, but all you have to do is close that screen and restart the program. The message only shows up when you complete a game.

Interferon is a Dr. Mario clone, though not perfect will make you wonder why anyone would need a Nintendo anyway.

My wife gives both two thumbs up.

MINUTES

By John Hubbard

New Business: Apr 30th 1994, there will be a parade in Fairview Heights, any one wanting to ride in the parade as a club member, talk to an officer. July 21st 1994, there is a ball game we can go to with transportation on a bus, that our club is invited to. It cost \$8.00 per person bus included, watch the Bits & Chips for more information.

Old Business: remember there is a class at every meeting, think about the questions you have.

President Tapehorn closed the meeting at 7:45pm. Demo's followed.

[illegible]

Meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at the Caseyville Township Hall, 10010 Bunkum Road in Fairview Heights



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P.O. Box 1839
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Check your dues date!

First Class

Bits & Chips

of the Gateway Computer Club

Volume 11

April 1994

Number 4

President's Page

by Mike Taphorn

Hello From The Pres...

SCANNER MANIA

If you missed the last meeting, you missed one of the best demonstrations we've had since I became president. Tom McDonald showed everyone how to scan images into an IBM compatible machine. The pictures looked great on the Super VGA screen. We may have to ask Tom to bring his scanner in again sometime for all those who didn't get a chance to have their pictures scanned. Thanks for the demo Tom...

DISK OF THE MONTH CLUB

Once we got the cards, the new Disk Of The Month Club Card idea got off to a good start at the March meeting.

Larry Briggs our editor volunteered to have cards ready for the March meeting, and he came through for us. The cards are available at all meetings at a cost of \$10.00. They are worth 12 Disk Of The Month's or Special Disks.

D.O.M. DEMONSTRATIONS

I think everyone enjoys finding out what is on the D.O.M. each month. We are going to demonstrate the D.O.M. and Special Disks at every meeting. Jim Tomlinson (our Amiga D.O.M. compiler) says to be careful with the Special Disk this month because the game he put on it is very very addictive. Don't blame him if you play it for hours on end.

What is it???... You have to read the rest of this article to find out...

Baseball Game

Anyone interested in going to a Cardinals baseball game. The one the board members are planning on attending is on

July 21st. The cost is \$8.00 and this includes a shuttle from the Fairview Heights Mall if you do not want to drive to St. Louis yourself. I think \$8.00 is a great price for a fun night out at the ballpark. If we get 25 people to sign up (including family and friends), we'll get our clubs name up on the scoreboard. If you would like to go to the game, please bring your cash and checkbooks to the April meeting just in case we need to collect the money.

Parade

April 30th is the parade that we've been planning on attending as a group. Please be ready to commit your time or vehicles or both at the April meeting. I unfortunately will not be able to go to the parade because I found out that I have to go out of town on the weekend of the 30th. Don't let the fact that I won't be able to reign on the parade prevent you from going.

Rumers Rumers Rumers

1. Two to three new games are being released every week in Europe for the CD32 machine.

2. Hewlett Packard may be using the CD32 as a T.V. top gateway to the information highway.

3. CD32 pricing should be dropping soon. \$399.00 --> \$299.00 with the MPEG going from \$250.00 --> \$100.00.

4. Approximately 300,000 CD32's have been sold. 150,000 in England alone.

5. The game Jim is putting on the special disk is....

Listed in the D.O.M. section of this newsletter.

SEE YOU AT THE MEETING....

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Membership Report

Larry Briggs

As of April 1st, 1994 we have 34 active members in our club.

Lets all give a big welcome to new members. None

THANKS AGAIN for continuing their membership with us. John Hubbard, and Norman Collins.

I would like to inform these members that their membership will expire this Coming meeting. James Eagen, Bob Clark, Everett Truttmann, Lester Gorman, Betty Feigenbutz, and Tom McDonald.

These Members will be dropped as they have not renewed their membership. Brian Goedelman, and Leonard Moore

If you have any questions about your membership, See Larry Briggs at the meeting, or call 345-0220.

Treasure's Report

Ken Welker

Balance Mar. 1, 1994.....\$644.81

I D.O.M. CARDS.....\$150.00

N D.O.M. SALES IBM.....\$ 0.00

C BLANK DISKS 3.5.....\$ 78.00

O BLANK DISKS 5.25.....\$ 0.00

M MEMBERSHIP.....\$ 15.00

E 50/50 RAFFLE.....\$ 10.50

MAR. INCOME.....\$253.50

E

X

P NEWS LETTER.....\$ 21.50

E POSTAGE.....\$ 15.66

N HALL RENT.....\$ 50.00

E

S

MAR. EXPENSES.....\$ 87.16

CURRENT BALANCE.....\$705.31

AS OF APRIL 1, 1994

Amiga D.O.M. APR. 94

by Jim Tomlinson

ANGUSTITLER - AngusTitler 4.0 is a program to create video titles for e.g. your holiday films. It is possible to scroll 350 lines up the screen. Of course, the colors, fonts, fontstyles, border etc. can be changed. It is also possible to load a background picture. This is only the demo-version that is limited to 10 lines, all other options are enabled, even saving and loading.

BANKER - Banker is a program designed to help you keep an accurate track of your bank accounts. Full 2.0 graphic user interface. Maximum use of the 2.0 OS features.

EGSSHOW - EGSShow is a viewing program for GIF and JPEG files on the EGS window system. This program is able to read the JPEG format as well as the GIF formats GIF87a, GIF89a and all future GIF files compatible with both of the above. The format of the file is detected automatically.

MEGASQUAD - Megasquad is a two-player combat-style game with two different modes of gameplay: Tag and Duel. Both game modes are played on boards consisting of walls and gates, and there are many boards to choose from.

MINE - So, what is Mine? It is a simple workbench game for WorkBench 3.0. It may work under 2.0 but has not been tried. You have a (square) board consisting of fields with some mines hidden. All you have to do is to find and mark them with the right mouse button. Play is much the same as on the IBM game.

PAYADVICE - A simple, easy-to-use database program on which you can enter all of your wage details without any awkward setting up or fiddling about.

PHONEDIR - Personal Phone Directory (PPD) was designed to remember addresses and phone numbers for you, and also dial the numbers automatically. PPD was designed especially with multitasking in mind. When you are doing something else its window can be minimized, and when you need to, you can call someone just by a click on the mouse. PPD uses almost no system power when not used. For 2.04 and above.

VIRUSZ - VirusZ is another try to make the perfect viruskiller. Although there are already hundreds of killers, none had to offer the, in my opinion, most important features. These are to be

short, fast and not to keep the user from working by opening a big screen with hundreds of gadgets or locking the drives.

MS-DOS D.O.M. APR. 94

Ken Welker & Tom McDonald

THE NUMBER MACHINE v5.9 by **GAMTECH** A lottery number tracker/analyser/picker that uses advanced statistical methods to help pick winning lottery numbers. Features easy to use data base, random number generator, 3-D bar color bar graphs and pie charts (EGA/VGA), multiple picking methods including several number wheelers, & utilities to print past winning numbers. \$25 registration gets updated programs and bound printed manual.

* * * * * **FREWARE!** * * * * *

PANTHER COMMUNICATIONS VERSION 2.00!** (Formerly **COSWORTH**) ***Full featured comms software - internal protocols, script language, macros, auto dialler, logs, captures, ANSI/Avatar/VT52, IEMSI, scrollbar, you name it, it's got it **AND IT'S TOTALLY 100% FREE!**

Autocat has been developed for Cataloging your Floppy Disks for storage. It has been designed to make the 'reading in' of your floppies as painless as possible, and retrieval quick and convenient. The general idea behind **AUTOCAT**, is to **NUMBER** your disks from 1 to whatever (Disk space limit only) and add them to the database with the auto numbering feature **ON**. Then place the disks in numerical order, into boxes of 200 or so. Later when searching for a disk, you can search for a specific filename, and it will report what disk 'number' that file is stored on. Then you just go to that box and get the file you need.

What is HS?

HS v3.5 is a small program written to protect against boot viruses. It checks for changes in the boot sectors of your harddisk. It will find almost any boot virus, notify you of the virus, and cold boot your machine after removing the virus. A copy of the infected boot sector is stored for later examination. You will no longer waste your time on boot virus infections!

HUGO1

WELCOME to HUGO'S HOUSE OF HORRORS

The story so far...You are in total control of Hugo's destiny as he searches the haunted house for his sweetheart Penelope! (She was last seen going into this house on a baby-sitting assignment)

To install on your hard drive, just type **GO**

All the programs on this disk are self extracting ZIP files.

Editor's Note

By Larry Briggs

Spring is here, (even though it is still cold today.) The club has entered us in a parade in Fairview Heights, and we will be going to a ball game. It was announced that you must have your money for the tickets in by the April meeting night so that Earl Salmons can purchase the tickets. You may invite your friends to join us, the more the merrier. We want to reach the 25 ticket level so that we can have our club's name announced on the center field score board.

We had the best demo last month, Tom McDonald brought his HP Color Scanner and Ms-DOS machine and put on an outstanding demo. He scanned many pictures that we members had with us, and the pictures were saved to our floppies, to take home and be used in our own applications, even on our AMIGA. We need more demo's like this.

I am going to miss the May meeting as I am going to Florida to visit my Daughter who lives in Davie, just west of Fort Lauderdale. I will be back for the June meeting.

MINUTES

By John Hubbard

Pres. Opened the meeting at 7:05pm.

New Business...We are going to have a gift disk package for new members, also current members when they renew their dues.

Fred Fish disk are in.

We will start having a Game of The Month soon it will be on a Special Disk. If you have a game you would like to see on this disk or if you are looking for a special game let us know.

We need someone to take over 50/50 full time, talk to any officer.

Old Business:...Ball Game July 21 / 94
\$ 8.00 Per Person, Bus to and from included,
meet at the water tower at St. Clair Square at
6.00pm. 29 Attended

After a short recess the demo was presented.

LIBRARIANS REPORT

By Dick Koerper

THE LIBRARIANS

SHELVES

A couple of weeks ago I was up at Plato's just looking around seeing what kind of mischief I could get into. Well I came upon a program called Ultracard, this program was written by Mike Lehman and produced by Intuitive Technologies.

According to the back of the book that came with the program Ultracard is a hypermedia information construction set. It came with it's own scripting language, ARexx compatibility, on disk help and tutorial stacks. As someone who uses a Macintosh computer at work and is familiar with a scripting program called Hypercard, this program seemed very familiar.

Well I bought the program and took it home to try it out. I was right it is very similar to Hypercard, in someways it is more advanced and in someways behind Hypercard. I believe it was well worth the price I paid for it, a whole dollar. But perhaps even more important than the program itself to a long time Amiga user like myself, is a signature on the inside of the manual, it simply says Jay Miner 7/29/89.

If you are wondering why this may be of interest, ask one of the long time Amiga users at our next meeting. It sometimes pays to keep your eyes open.

Til Next Time

Dick Koerper

Club	Firstname	Lastname	City	St	Zip	Phone	Sig	Dues_Due
0040	Laura	Blackwell	Roxana	IL	62084	618-254-1164	Am	1-Oct-94
0011	Larry	Briggs	Collinsville	IL	62234	618-345-0220	Ami	1-Dec-94
0032	Tony C.	Burke	Collinsville	IL	62234	618-345-5685	IBM	1-Nov-94
0049	Diego	Cardenas	O'Fallon	IL	62269	618-624-6493	Ami	1-Jan-95
0016	Bob	Clark	Belleville,	IL	62223	618-397-5212	Ibm	1-May-94
0022	Richard L	Collins	Alton	IL	62002	618-463-1338	Ami	1-Oct-94
0050	Norman.F	Collins	Caseyville,	IL	62232	618-397-5084	ami	1-Mar-94
0035	Dave	Dawson	Collinsville	IL	62234	618-344-0279	Ami	1-Nov-94
0008	James E.	Eagen	Belleville	IL	62221	618-234-1108	64	1-May-94
0039	Betty	Feigenbutz	Caseyville	IL	62232	618-398-1034	128	1-May-94
0051	Brian	Goedelman	Belleville	IL	62220	618-233-4321	Ami	1-Mar-94
0029	Lester	Gorman	Millstadt,	IL	62260	618-476-1362	64	1-May-94
0004	Marvin	Hirschman	Lebanon	IL	62254	618-277-1485	64	1-Nov-94
0048	John W	Hubbard	Caseyville	IL	62232	618-345-1934	Ami	1-Mar-94
0046	Bill	Jacks	Fairview Hgts.	IL	62208	618-398-5383	Ibm	1-Feb-94
0043	Kenneth M	Jeffress	Belleville	IL	62221	618-234-4113	128	1-Jun-94
0033	Arthur	Koenig	Belleville	IL	62220	618-234-3421	Ibm	1-Nov-94
0019	Dick	Koerper	Granite City	IL	62040	618-452-5110	Ami	1-Oct-94
0038	Scott	Leathers	Woodriver	IL	62095	618-254-0781	Am	1-Sep-94
0047	Inge	Liggett	Caseyville	IL	62232	618-344-0839	Ibm	1-Feb-94
0021	Carlos B	Mariles	O'Fallon	IL	62269	618-624-2563	128	1-Feb-94
0003	George/Clara	McClaskey	St.Louis	Mo	63137	314-867-6848	64	1-Oct-94
0041	Tom	McDonald	Caseyville	IL	62232	618-344-8017	IBM	1-May-94
0034	Jeffrey	Miller	Alton	IL	62002	618-466-4911	Ami	1-Nov-94
0052	Leonard	Moore	Fairview Hgts	IL	62208	618-397-4787	ami	1-Mar-94
0045	Ken	Nochta	Collinsville	IL	62234	618-344-3678	Ibm	1-Oct-94
0030	John W	Price	Millstadt	IL	62260	618-476-3567	Ibm	1-Nov-94
0062	Earl	Salmons	Fairview Hgts	IL	62208	618-397-5029	App	1-Jan-99
0042	Eula & Ted	Schmidt	O'Fallon	IL	62269	618-632-6358	64	1-May-94
0009	Ruth M	Shaw	Collinsville	IL	62234	618-344-7589	IBM	1-Sep-94
0028	John L	Sundstrom	Fairview Hgts.	IL	62208	618-397-7235	64	1-Oct-94
0027	Mike	Taphorn	Collinsville	IL	62234	618-345-2197	AMI	1-Oct-94
0002	James E	Tomlinson	O'Fallon	IL	62269	618-624-3872	Ami	1-Nov-94
0026	Charles H	Trotter	Belleville	IL	62223	618-398-3220	128	1-Sep-94
0024	Everett	Truttmann	O'Fallon	IL	62269	618-632-4735	64	1-May-94
0018	Ken	Welker	Belleville	IL	62221	618-234-5901	Ibm	1-Aug-94
0044	Juanita	Welker	Smithton	IL	62285	618-234-8926	Ami	1-Sep-94

Gateway Computer Club Membership Application

Date _____ New/Renewal No. _____
(Circle one)

NAME: _____ COMPUTER: _____

ADDRESS: _____ DISK DRIVE: _____

CITY: _____ MONITOR OR TV: _____

STATE: _____ ZIP: _____ PRINTER: _____

PHONE #: () _____ MODEM: _____

DUES PAID: \$ _____ OTHER: _____

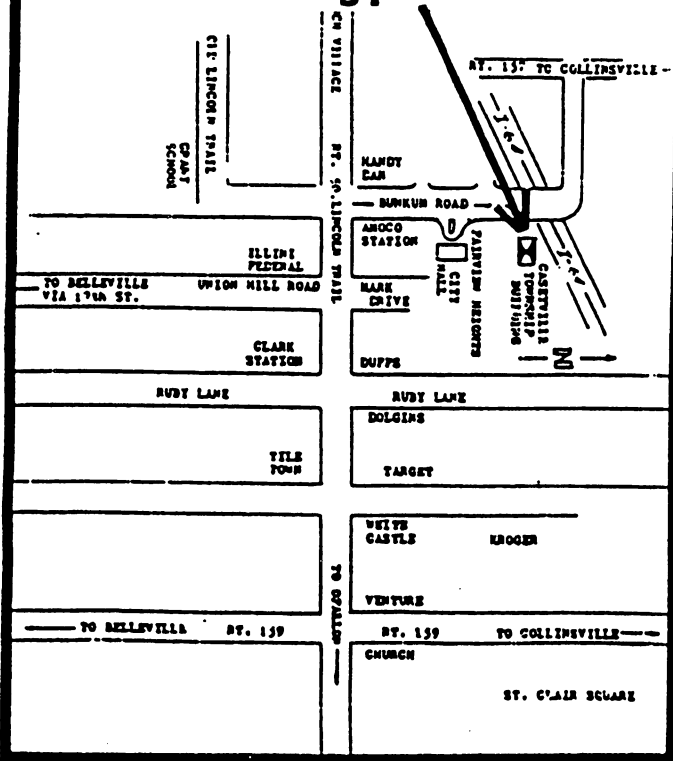
MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT

By signing this application and joining the Gateway Computer Club, I hereby agree to abide by the Constitution and By-laws of the GCC. I also will abide with the club rules concerning copyrighted software and will not copy such software at any club function.

I agree to allow my name, address, telephone number and other information provided above to be used by the GCC for club distribution and related mailing lists.

Signature: _____

Gateway Computer Club meeting place



GCC Directory

Next Meeting:

APRIL 20th 1994 7:00pm

Next Exec. Bd. Meeting:

May 4th 1994 at 7:00pm
At the WESTERN SIZZLIN
Fairview Heights, IL

Next Copy Session:

At all regular Meetings
Bring your Computer

Visitors Always Welcome

At Meetings

Meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at the Caseyville Township Hall, 10010 Bunkum Road in Fairview Heights



GATEWAY COMPUTER CLUB
P.O. Box 1839
Fairview Heights, IL 62208



Check your dues date!

First Class

Bits & Chips

of the Gateway Computer Club

Volume 11

May 1994

Number 5

Hello From The Pres...

D.O.M. DEMONSTRATIONS

I really thought Jim was going to tell you what was on last month's D.O.M. Special The Special Disk Of The Month for the Amiga was Scorched Tanks....
Like I said last month, the game is very addictive. I can tell you this from experience. Make sure you buy a copy if you don't already have one.
Sorry if I lead you on and then let you down.

Baseball Game

Anyone interested in going to a Cardinals baseball game. There is still time to get your tickets. The game is on July 21st. The cost is \$8.00 and this includes a shuttle from the Fairview Heights Mall if you do not want to drive yourself. I still think \$8.00 is a great price for a fun night out at the ballpark. Remember, if we get 25 people to sign up, we get our clubs name up on the scoreboard. If you would like to go to the game, please bring your cash and checkbooks to the May or June meeting.

Rain Rain Go Away

April 30th was supposed to be the parade that we were planning on attending as a group. I heard it was a little too wet for a parade. I hope my bad pun in last month's Bits & Chips didn't cause the rain out. We'll get a report from those who attempted to attend the parade at the May meeting.

Blank Disks

We now have blank 5 1/4" DSDD disks available for all the 8-Bit Commodore and Apple Users.

They are available for 15 cents a disk and this price includes labels and sleeves.

COPY COPY COPY SESSION

BRING your BLANKS or your cash! We're having a copy session!

The MAY meeting will be an official copy session for the club. I am planning on bringing my system and as many of my disks as I can fit in my car. I may borrow my Mom's Truck if necessary. Please bring your software and your systems and we'll copy till we drop.

COMPUTER SHOW

Anyone interested in attending the DuPage College Computer Swap Meet / Show. Please inquire at the May meeting and we'll try to set up a convoy. I for one would like to get some of the cut-rate hardware and software Jim and Ken have been telling us about.

SEE YOU AT THE MEETING....

Reports

The Club

The Gateway Computer Club is a not-for-profit organization of like-minded computer users. Membership fee is \$15.00 per year. Members receive access to the club's public domain library, educational programs, literature and monthly Bits & Chips Newsletter.

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V.P.: Diego Cardenas.....624-6493
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TRES: Ken Welker.....234-5901
EDITOR: Larry Briggs.....345-0220
LIBR: Richard Koerper.....452-5110
ASST LIBR: (AMIGA).....Jim Tomlinson
ASST LIBR: (MS-DOS).....Ken Welker
MEMBERSHIP: Larry Briggs.....345-0220

Bits & Chips

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Membership Report

Larry Briggs

As of May 1st.-1994 we have 34 active members in our club.

Lets all give a big welcome to new members. None

THANKS AGAIN for continuing his membership with us. Everett Truttmann.

I would like to inform these members that their membership will expire this Coming meeting. Betty Feigenbutz, James E. Eagen, Tom McDonald, Eula & Ted Schmidt, Bob Clark, and Lester Gorman.

These Members will be dropped as they have not renewed their membership.

If you have any questions about your membership, See Larry Briggs at the meeting, or call 345-0220.

Treasure's Report

by Ken Welker

Balance April 1, 1994.....\$705.31

I D.O.M. CARDS.....\$ 20.00
N
C BLANK DISKS 3.5.....\$ 83.00
O BLANK DISKS 5.25.....\$ 11.25
M MEMBERSHIP.....\$ 0.00
E 50/50 RAFFLE.....\$ 7.00

APRIL INCOME.....\$123.25

E
X
P NEWS LETTER.....\$ 25.50
E POSTAGE.....\$ 10.44
N BLANK DISKS.....\$458.75
E
S

APRIL EXPENSES.....\$ 494.69

CURRENT BALANCE.....\$333.87
AS OF MAY 1, 1994

Amiga D.O.M. MAY. 94

by Jim Tomlinson

ADDPower - AddPower is a utility for users of Workbench 2.0 and above that adds several small features to the operating system. These features allow you to take full advantage of the improvements of Workbench 2.0 and 3.0, adding new powers to DOS, enhancing the look of screens and menus, and more.

ALERTHELP - AlertHelp helps you to interpret the system alert messages, so you don't need to learn every alert number and its meaning by heart or check every alert from the 1000-page Amiga ROM Kernel Reference Manual.

FLEUCH - This is the second version of FLEUCH, a little action game. It is based on THRUST, a game for the Commodore 64 computer.

HEADCLEANER - HeadCleaner is for cleaning your floppy disk drive heads. It works by stepping the heads in across the cleaning surface of the head cleaning disk, thus continually exposing the heads to fresh uncontaminated cleaner, whilst greatly increasing the life of your cleaning disk, by not continually using the same track. HeadCleaner can be run from the CLI or WB, but requires at least V37, 2.04+ of the Operating system.

MUCHMORE - MuchMore is another program like More, Less etc. that prints ASCII-Files to the screen. Unlike these, it opens its own screen to show the text and to scroll it softly! But not only softly, MuchMore is also able to scroll very quickly if you want it to! Furthermore, there are commands to search for strings and to print the text. MuchMore will run on any Amiga, whether it's a PAL, NTSC, overscan or any Amiga in future. Because [1mMuchMore]m's screen has no border, there are 80 characters displayed per line.

ORM - Orm is played on a 40*40 matrix which fills a window on the default public screen (usually the Workbench). You are the grey dot (assuming the default colours) in the center - to increase in length (the object of the game) you must eat frogs (the white dots) while avoiding bricks (the blue dots).

PARCHEESE - PARCHEESE is an Amiga version of the classic board game with the same name. The program is fully multitasking so that you can play while you work. It is also completely moused with extensive use of Intuition environment.

QDISK - QDisk provides you with the ability to monitor, from WorkBench, the space usage of all AMIGA DOS disk volumes that are currently mounted.

SPOOLER - This program allows you to

print textfiles in the background. You start up the spooler with the command 'Spooler'. Then the spooler will constantly watch the directory SPOOL: and as soon as a file is copied to the directory SPOOL:, this file will be printed. When more than one file is present in the SPOOL: directory, all files are placed in a waitqueue and printed one by one.

MS-DOS D.O.M. MAY. 94

Ken Welker & Tom McDonald

BAM355 . EXE

Bank Account Manager V 3.55 Checking and banking made easy! Bank Account Manager is a program designed to keep track of ALL your bank accounts, not only checking accounts. It is very easy to use, easy to learn, and very powerful in the features it offers. You have unlimited accounts, unlimited transactions, the ability to categorize your transactions, perform check reconciliation, and much much more.

DCF 46 . EXE

DISK COPY FAST V 4.6 Performs the DOS commands FORMAT, DISKCOPY and DISKCOMP all in one single pass. Copy VERY fast from 8088 to 486, from monochrome to SVGA. Friendly, informative and visually appealing user interface with on-line help and mouse support. No need to go through a lengthy DOC file and you still couldn't remember all the options and switches.

OTD - 18. EXE

ON THIS DAY V 1.8

Did you know that Children's Day is the second Sunday in June? Or that November is Aviation History Month? How about that Willard Scott (NBC's "birthday boy") was born on March 7th 1934?

Confucius was born August 27th, 551 BC? On This Day can tell you all this and much more.

WINCLEAN

What WinClean can do for you:

Everybody who's used Microsoft Windows for

more than a few days has come up against a problem. With very few exceptions, there's no good way to remove a program written for the environment from your system, if you decide you don't want it there anymore. See WinClean Manual .txt for complete instructions.

1COSMO . EXE

An Adventure game. On a strange and dangerous Planet, Cosmo must find and rescue his parents.

LIBRARIANS REPORT

By Dick Koerper

THE LIBRARIAN'S SHELVES

8:50 PM May 3, 1994

At the April board meeting I was pleased to tell the other members of the board that the rumors concerning the demise of Plato Computers were totally erroneous. The news that our favorite local Amiga outlet was alive and well was welcomed exuberantly. So you can imagine my chagrin when visiting Plato's Saturday I noticed that the Amiga pickings were getting awfully thin. When I queried the proprietor as to why this was, he informed me that Commodore America had ceased to exist as a viable business and he would be reticent to purchase more stock for his shelves until he could ascertain the future of Commodore and the availability of their products in this country.

As I understand it, Commodore Canada, Germany, Britain, France, etc. are all still alive and well. Also rumors abound concerning the Amiga in this country, everything from Sony Corp. buying up alot of stock to Hewlet-Packard taking over distribution in the United States.

If either of these rumors or a score of others going around are true, either the Amiga will die in this country or on a more positive note one of these companies could come in and do something unheard of by the now defunct Commodore America, promote the machine, tell people it's out there and just what it can do. Maybe this is a blessing in disguise and they will change the name of the Amiga to the Phoenix and allow it to rise from the ashes of Commodore America to take it's rightful place among the technology leaders of our day and into the 21st century.

MINUTES

By John Hubbard

Minutes By John Hubbard

Pres. opened the meeting at 7:08pm.

The Pres said, the 5 1/4 disk will sell for \$0.15 each. The 3 1/4 will be \$0.20 each.

Copy session next meeting bring all your disk's and lots of blanks!!!

If you get a bad disk from the club bring it in and exchange it.

We still need someone to do 50/50 each month.

The Pres. closed the meeting at 8:16pm.

Editor's Note

By Larry Briggs

Here I am, back from my vacation in Davie Florida. I had a nice three week visit with my daughter. Watched my granddaughter graduate from nursing school, it is times like this that makes me realize that I am not a young man any more.

AS you can see from the article be our Librarian, Commodore is no more. There was an article in wednesdays Post describing the whole mess. It read that Prudential insurance co, the note holder will take over management and try to revitalize the company to recoup there losses. Perhaps they can do a better job of promoting the Amiga, "as Commodore should have done", and get the Amiga into the publics eye.

All of us that own an Amiga, whether it is the lolly A500 or the top of the line A4000, know that the Amiga is the best of all computers, There are some software developers that is still writing code for the Amiga, I hope that they will not pull out now that Commodore is in trouble. We need their support as we will continue to use our computer as long as we can.

A Request from the Commodore Shareholder's Movement

A few days ago I downloaded this item from the Soft-Logik BBS. I don't remember the name of the poster, but the important thing here is the content, not the author. Please do as Mr. Levin requests and ~~Write~~ to the CSM. If you phone, he won't be able to show Prudential anything. Please ~~Write!~~

William F. Maddock
Editor

On April 5, I spoke with Mike Levin of the Commodore Shareholders Movement. He has spoken with a MAJOR creditor of Commodore - Prudential Insurance. Mr. Levin is convinced that Prudential will NOT pull the plug on Commodore, but will keep it together to salvage what they can of the company. They will try to manage the company back to good health. I am certain that Prudential can find the managers who are CAPABLE of doing just that! ~~But~~, he also wants to hear from you and your Amigan friends and dealers, etc.!

Please ~~Write~~ The CSM!
(He Can't show a phone conversation to anyone.)
DON'T PHONE!

Say anything you like about Commodore and their products to support Prudential in these hard times to *convince* them that you are a loyal and valuable, Commodore/Amiga customer worthy of *their* future support. Tell them how much you would like to see future development of the Amiga family of computers and peripherals.

Remember: It's up to YOU to convince Prudential to continue with Commodore, and that Commodore is **not** a risky company investment!

Commodore Shareholder Movement
Mike Levin
P. O. Box 8296,
Philadelphia, PA
U.S.A. 19101

Reprint from St.Louis Gateway Amiga Club Newsletter.

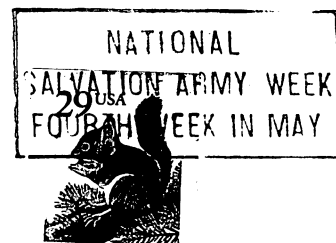
**Gateway Computer Club
meeting place**

Map labels and features:

- Top:** GATEWAY COMPUTER CLUB MEETING PLACE (indicated by a large arrow pointing to the intersection of Hwy. 137 and S. 6th St.)
- Top Left:** CITY VILLAGE, ST. 50-LINCOLN TRAIL, HARDY CAR, BUNKER ROAD
- Top Center:** AMOCO STATION, MARK DRIVE, DUPPS
- Top Right:** ST. 137 TO COLLINSVILLE, S. 6th ST., CASTLETON TOWNSHIP MISSOURI, N (North arrow)
- Middle Left:** ILLINOIS FEDERAL, UNION HILL ROAD, CLARK STATION
- Middle Right:** RUBY LAKE, DOLGINS, TARGET
- Bottom Left:** TO BELLVILLE VIA 17th ST., TO BELLVILLE, ST. 139
- Bottom Center:** WHITE CASTLE, KROGER, VINTAGE, CHURCH
- Bottom Right:** TO COLLINSVILLE, ST. CLAIR SQUARE



GATEWAY COMPUTER CLUB
P.O. Box 1839
Fairview Heights, IL 62208



First



Bits & Chips

of the Gateway Computer Club

Volume 11

June 1994

Number 6

President's Page

By Mike Taphorn

Hello from the Pres...

Last Month's Copy Session

We had a copy session last month. I think everyone that attended enjoyed having a short business meeting and lots of time to copy. I got a few new programs, and I gave a few of mine to the other members. Overall I think things went pretty well.

Busy Busy Busy

I've been very busy lately. I had a business trip to Milwaukee last week and I am flying to Cleveland tomorrow to have a little fun at a few amusement parks. If all goes well I should be back before you read this. Anyway I only have another twenty minutes to finish this article so I'll move on...

Commodore News

I have not heard anything definite concerning the demise or resurrection of Commodore yet. Rumor has it that either a large Asian company has bought or will buy Commodore and continue production of the current product line. According to Amiga World Magazine, something like 46.2 % of the CD-ROM programs sold in Europe belong to the CD-32

machine. 13 of the top 20 CD-ROM games in Europe are for the CD-32 machine. This has really impressed the competition considering the CD-32 has only been around for 6 months. They said approximately 80 titles are currently available and there should be at least 200 titles available before the end of the year. They also mentioned that a prototype CD-ROM drive for the A1200 was displayed at the last European show, and that it should be available very soon. An A4000 unit (available in September or October) will be capable of showing the MPEG compressed CD-ROM based movies.

Computer Show in Chicago

I attended the May computer at the College of Dupage in Chicago. There were quite a few deals to be had. One dealer auctioned off everything in his booth at the end of the day. Working monitors and other peripherals were selling for less than \$20.00. He even auctioned off a 486 computer as the final item. Most of the dealers there were IBM compatible oriented. Two booths had Amiga software, but there was no hardware to be found. The biggest booths had CD-ROM's. There were hundreds of titles to choose from. The show was very interesting and I have information on how to get there if you are interested. I'll bring maps and schedules to the June meeting.

Well my time has come to say good-bye...

See you at the meeting.

Reports

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ASST LIBR: (MS-DOS).....Ken Welker
MEMBERSHIP: Larry Briggs.....345-0220

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Lets all give a big welcome to new members. None

THANKS AGAIN for continuing Their membership with us. Betty Feigenbutz, Tom McDonald, Bob Clark and Lester Germann

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If you have any questions about your membership, See Larry Briggs at the meeting, or call 345-0220.

Treasure's Report

By Ken Welker
Balance May 1, 1994.....\$333.87

I D.O.M. CARDS.....\$ 20.00
N D.O.M. DISKS.....\$ 74.00
C BLANK DISKS 3.5.....\$ 93.00
O BLANK DISKS 5.25.....\$ 0.00
M MEMBERSHIP.....\$ 90.00
E .

MAY INCOME.....\$277.00

E
X
P NEWS LETTER.....\$ 26.00
E POSTAGE.....\$ 10.44
N
E
S

MAY EXPENSES.....\$ 36.44

CURRENT BALANCE.....\$574.43
AS OF JUNE 1, 1994

Amiga D.O.M. June. 94

by Jim Tomlinson

ASWARM - A Screenblanker with high security which does not burn in the graphic into the screen when CPU is really busy. It's funny to watch, runs only under Amiga OS Release 2.04 or newer. Needs the "MUI" User-Interface.

DISKCAT - DiskCat is a configurable disk Librarian. By a menu selection all disks that are inserted are automatically searched and the useful information copied. A 45 character comment can be entered for each file. 2.04 + is required to run diskcat.

DMAP - DMAP version 2.1, an update to version V2.0. Source included. German version only, English version will follow soon. Provides a graphical representation of a disk tree layout.

FASTERBLIT - This tiny program will speed up blitter processes just like FastBlit, for any Amiga running 2.0 or above.

PICOVIEW - PicoView is a picture view program written for viewing 8 bit pictures with a Pico graphics card. This allows the possibility to view a 256 color picture in 1280x1024.

POSTCARDMAN CHEATS - Here he is again by popular demand. A full 280 pages worth of cheats and tips for Amiga games.

PROMOTOR - A utility for promoting screens under 2.0 or above on machines with hi-end graphics boards.

MS-DOS D.O.M. June. 94

Ken Welker & Tom McDonald

HOGFIND.EXE

DISK HOG FINDER was designed to compute the space used by each directory and all it's subdirectories. A Graphical User Interface clearly displays the results of this computation as a directory outline with a disk usage bar chart.

ONCEV151.EXE

ONCE ONLY V1.5

~~~~~  
This very small routine is to call a set of programs that you only want to run once a day, as many programs and utilities don't give you this option, such as a checkdisk program, such as NDD and CHKDSK, and anti-virus scanners.

Also this version can run programs on the 1st, 7th, 13th, 18th and 24th of the month. On certain other dates also the program will run. Once Only!!!

### **GALAXY.EXE**

COMMANDER KEEN in "GOODBYE, GALAXY"

KEEN EPISODE FOUR: SECRET OF THE ORICAL

Type KEEN4E to run.

### **ICONS**

#### **WINDOW ICONS**

THE ICONS IN THIS COLLECTIONS ARE SO MANY IN NUMBER THAT IT IS SUGGESTED THAT YOU TRY TO PLACE THEM IN MORE THEN ONE SUB-DIRECTORY ON YOUR HARD DISK. THE ICONS HAVE BEEN COMPRESSED IN SIZE BY 'PKZIP'.

**GALAXY, ONCEV151, AND HOGHIND** are selfextracting zip files, use PKZIP to unzip each file in ICONS.

## THE LIBRARIAN'S SHELVES

By Dick Koerper

Here I stand pen in hand , wait scratch that .  
I better put the pen down and sit in front of the  
computer , otherwise Larry will have a hard time  
finding it on the disk .

Well I don't know about everybody else  
who owns an Amiga , but I am far from ready to  
jump to another format just because things are not  
as solid as I would like them. In fact I have enough  
confidence in the Amiga ( not Commodore ) that I  
am calling in an order for a couple of hundred  
dollars worth of software and a new Amiga  
baseball cap. Reports that I have read in the  
periodicals say that support for the Amiga is still  
strong and third party developers are planning on  
hanging in there . Good for them !

On the darker side I was reading an article  
in the July issue of MacWorld

( yes that's right MacWorld , what can I say  
I work with them so I have to keep up on them )  
that was written by Steven Levy that made mention  
of something called Clipper chip being promoted  
by the National Security Agency that could  
adversely effect our ability to keep our E-Mail and  
phone calls private from the government . If anyone  
knows more and would be willing to share I would  
be interested in hearing.

By the by Steven Levy also wrote what I  
consider to be one of the best histories of the  
personal computer , and one of my all time favorite  
books " Hackers " , check it out !

Well T.T.F.N.  
Dick Koerper

## MINUTES

By John Hubbard

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm. A  
short business meeting was held and the meeting was  
then turned over to the members who had brought their  
computers for the copy session.

---

## Editor's Note

By Larry Briggs

The program for the next regular meeting  
will feature a showing of an video of a graphics  
program, furnished by Richard Koerper. Also a  
review of the D.O.M.'s

All those going to the ball game must pay  
for the tickets at the June meeting.

As we all know, the GCC started out as a  
Commodore C64 users group, it slowly merged to  
the Amiga, that was ok, as it was still Commodore.  
Then, as more and more C64 users dropped out of  
the club, it was agreed to let in IBM users as the  
club was not signing any new Amiga users. So, at  
my last count we have fifteen IBM users, (some of  
these still have Commodore Computers), there are  
four C64's and two C128. One "Apple" (not the  
kind you can eat), and there are ten Amiga's.

You can see where we are headed, as  
Commodore has folded, more and more of us are  
turning to a computer that we can expect some  
support. Commodore failed miserably as a  
supporting company for their computers. Hopefully  
some company will buy the rights from  
Commodore, continue to make the Amiga,  
advertize, and support it. I for one will not give up  
my A2000, even though I purchased an PC. An  
Amiga it is NOT..

If you are not aware, the date on the address  
label is your dues date, please check it and don't let  
your membership lapse we do not want to lose you  
as a member, they are hard to come by.

# Diego's Diary

## Experiences with the AMIGA

Larry, our beloved editor, requested that I do an article on archives. As I have had an incurable case of writer's block, I took him up on his solicitation.

The archives that I am referring to are the ones typically with a three letter suffix after the file name. Some examples include: .arc, .zoo, .lha, .lzh, .dms, .uue, .tar, .zip, and .sit. What has happened with these files is that someone wanted to make them easier to distribute either by compressing them so that more data would fit on one disc, or so that it would take less time to transmit over a phone line from one computer to another, or so that the files could be stored on a computer that was different from the computer that the file was intended to be used on.

The question is, once presented with one of these archived files, how do you "un-archive" it? Unfortunately, there is no one answer to this problem. Two methods generally exist though. The first is to figure out what program was used to create the archive and then using this program, unarchive the file using the format: Archiver -x (or just "x") archivename.extension. On the Amiga, this would look like this:

```
1> lha x filename.lha
```

On MS-DOS computers, it usually looks like this:

```
C:\>PKXARC -x filename.arc
```

A second method is to use a program that only unarchives files. These programs usually have the following syntax: Unarchiver archivename.extension. Here are a couple of examples for the Amiga and IBM compatible computers respectively:

```
1> UnDMS filename.dms
C:\>PKUNZIP filename.zip
```

If all else fails, most current archivers and unarchivers provide a help screen if one types "Archiver ?" or just the archiver/unarchiver filename by itself. A certain familiarity with your computer and its operating system is assumed to perform these

operations. If you have read this far and you still don't have a clue as to what a Zip file is and how to access the programs contained within its archive, you need to ask a lot more questions at the next meeting! If you have a file that you downloaded from a BBS (see my previous article on modems for what this means) and you're not sure of what to do with it but the file description on the BBS sounded interested, then bring the program in on a floppy disc and I'll see if I recognize the format and how to extract the programs contained within it.

As I have a few lines left, let me mention to those people not at the April General meeting that I am giving away a few programs for the Amiga as part of the 50/50 raffle. I have 2 copies of Final Copy (a word processor) and 1 copy of Deluxe Paint IV AGA to give away still. One copy of Final Copy and the copy of DPaint IV are still sealed from the factory and can be registered. I will be giving one program away per month. My old copy of Final Copy along with the manual will be the next give away. For the IBM'ers and Apple enthusiasts in the crowd, you can probably sell the programs to an Amiga owner for more than the \$1 you invested in the 50/50 raffle.

---

### Special disk for June 1994 Amiga Disk...

**Knights** - Knights is a two-player game of brave knights who wander deep in the dangerous dungeons pursuing their goal. It includes almost 250 dungeon floorplan bases which allows almost infinite number of different dungeons, excellent sound effects and nice violence, corpses and gore that does not vanish, flexible quest customization and creatures with nice sounds and fancy tactics. This game requires two players and at least one joystick. There is a font that **MUST** be moved to your fonts directory; use Disk Master or something similar to do it.

**Mutant Penguin** - This is a game based on Pengo the arcade game.

AV. 137 TO COLLINSVILLE

ST. 50. LINCOLN TRAIL

CIE LINCOLN TRAIL

CRAY SCHOOL

KANDY CAR

BUNKER ROAD

AMOCO STATION

CITY HALL

PARKING RESORTS

MARK DRIVE

DUFFS

CASTLE TOWNSHIP BUILDING

N

RUBY LANE

DOLGINS

TARGET

WHITE CASTLE

KROGER

VENTURE

ST. 139

TO COLLINSVILLE

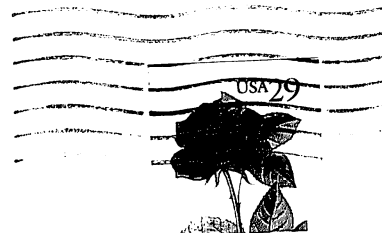
CHURCH

ST. CLAIR SQUARE

**Meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at the Caseyville Township Hall, 10010 Bunkum Road in Fairview Heights**



**GATEWAY COMPUTER CLUB**  
**P.O. Box 1839**  
**Fairview Heights, IL 62208**



## Check your dues date!

# First Class

# ***Bits & Chips***

## **of the Gateway Computer Club**

Volume 11

July 1994

Number 7

### **President's Page**

By Mike Taphorn

**Hello from the Pres...**

**Can you say HOT HOT HOT**

Well, I'll start this article off with a little information as to why it is so short. My computer room is the room above my garage. During the summer months when I do not get to use my computer very often due to the increased amounts of outdoor activities that I enjoy, we generally close the room up and allow the temperature to get warmer than the rest of the house to save energy and money. Well, guess what, I forgot to open the room up before I had to write this article so it is about 100 degrees in here and I'm beginning to sweat (a lot). I better write something official or else my editor will get mad.

#### **Last Meeting**

Last meeting we showed a video that contained some great computer generated graphics and animations. We are planning on having another video at the next meeting that is both newer and more exciting than last months'. Everyone seemed to enjoy the first video and I think many of us are looking forward to seeing the next one too.

#### **Commodore News...**

I haven't heard anything new lately...If you came to the last meeting you're already aware that at least one and as many as four companies are trying to buy Commodore and they are either going to split the company up or keep it together and put together a big advertising campaign to promote the Amiga line of computers. I hope something happens soon so the fate of my Commodore stock will be determined once and for all. **FOR ALL THE LATEST RUMORS....COME TO THE JULY MEETING.**

**NEW JOB FOR THE PRES.**

No, this is not a discussion of a new club activity for yours truly. I just thought you might like to know that I have changed jobs again. As many of you know, I changed jobs six months ago when the company I was working for closed up shop. I recently decided to accept a position at Johnson Controls as an Application Engineer. Hopefully everything will work out for the best and I won't be changing jobs for a long time.

**See you at the meeting.**

**Mike**

P.S. The length of this article is a reflection of my heat tolerance...(sweat, pant, sweat...)

---

### **Editor's Note**

By Larry Briggs

I do not have much to write about this month as the Commodore thing is already covered in another article. So I will again let the new members know how the GCC newsletter is put together.

First, I am using an Amiga 2000, with an accelerator, Hard drive, HP Laserjet 11p+ printer and the program is Pagestream 2.2.1 by Soft Logik located in St. Louis Mo. I am waiting for version 3 to be released. Soon I hope.

I am editing all the text that is given to me in Final Copy II, even text on an Ms-DOS disk, as long as it is on a low density disk. I use cross dos. Works fine with a little clean up, it ads line feeds that I have not been able to eliminate. **HELP ANYONE!** I have to do it manually.

I then import the text into Pagestream and format it as to headlines, font size, indent, and any other formatting needed. I then print the newsletter master pages. Take them to Kwik Kopy to be printed

I can still use articles to print, keep them coming..



# Reports

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V.P.: Diego Cardenas.....624-6493  
SEC: John Hubbard.....345-1934  
TRES: Ken Welker.....234-5901  
EDITOR: Larry Briggs.....345-0220  
LIBR: Richard Koerper.....452-5110  
ASST LIBR: (AMIGA).....Jim Tomlinson  
ASST LIBR: (MS-DOS).....Ken Welker  
MEMBERSHIP: Larry Briggs.....345-0220

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## Membership Report

Larry Briggs

As of July 1st.-1994 we have 32 active members in our club.

Lets all give a big welcome to new members. None

THANKS AGAIN for continuing Their membership with us. None

I would like to inform these members that their membership will expire this Coming meeting. Ken Jeffress.

These Members will be dropped as they have not renewed their membership. James E. Eagen and Eula & Ted Schmidt.

If you have any questions about your membership, See Larry Briggs at the meeting, or call 345-0220.

## Treasure's Report

By Ken Welker

Balance June 1, 1994.. .....\$574.43

I D.O.M. CARDS.....\$ 30.00  
N D.O.M. DISKS.....\$ 4.00  
C BLANK DISKS 3.5.....\$ 7.50  
O BLANK DISKS 5.25.....\$ 0.00  
M MEMBERSHIP.....\$ 0.00  
E 50/50.....\$ 7.50

JUNE INCOME.....\$ 49.00

E  
X  
P NEWS LETTER.....\$ 30.00  
E POSTAGE.....\$ 10.44  
N.  
E  
S

JUNE EXPENSES.....\$ 40.44

CURRENT BALANCE.....\$582.99  
AS OF JULY 1, 1994

## Amiga D.O.M. July. 94

by Jim Tomlinson

**ABCDir** - A versatile and easy to use dir util. It goes into LHA archives, it makes good use of file comments, it has definable filetypes, it's quick, it has a shell, it slices, it dices and it even makes soup!

**AmigaSolitaire** - Amiga Solitaire is an Amiga version of that every popular card game, Klondike Solitaire. The game provides multiple options including six different decks (with unique king, queen, and jack pictures for three of the decks), customizable game rules, game timer, the ability to view a stack, and an undo feature.

**BF** - Welcome to Batch Factory - the friendliest little Batch Processor and ARexx front-end in all the realm. With Batch Factory all you need to do is pick the stuff you want to work with, tell the Amiga what you want to do with that stuff, click PROCESS and then go watch the Braves game while the little guys inside the machine do all the boring work. This is a Demo Version.

**FreeCopy** - This is version 1.9 of FreeCopy; a disk protection cracker. Although this is an old program, it is well worth having. This version is an upgrade from the version previously in the GCC library.

**Miles Stones** - MileStone is a software version of the same game Parker Brothers call Mille Bornes

**SIIT** - Storm Icon Image Tool was written by me to be a fast and down to earth icon editor. Of course it can also be used to edit small sprites/bobs but it is aimed towards creating icons blocks for use in games etc.

## Special AMIGA disk for July 1994

**GORF** - Loosely based on the arcade game by the same name.

**Tanxnstuff** - A nice game of Tanks.

**Toado** - Help the toad in his quest.

**NOTE:** All of these games must be started from CLI under 1.3.

## MS-DOS D.O.M. July. 94

Ken Welker & Tom McDonald

### MLK105.EXE

Thank you for examining Microwerks Microlink product. Version 1.05 is an attempt to bring a more professional and stable Communication Package to the general public. We have included a number of enhancements and new features based on the comments we have received.

The main addition that 1.05 brings to the table beyond 1.04 is the external modem file called modems.dat. This is an ASCII file and is user configurable.

### WD202.EXE

This version of WinDupe provides diskette copy, compare, and format operations all in a easy to use Windows based application. See the history section for details.

### #1MAJR13

### MAJOR STRYKER! V1.3 BY APOGEE!

Triple parallax scrolling sets this action shoot 'em up game apart from any other. EGA/VGA graphics, joystick, AdLib & Sound Blaster supported. Incredible 3-D illusion of depth. Become Earth's greatest hero as you repel an alien invasion. Multi-skill levels, cinematics, demo, saved games, etc.

### MORE WINDOW ICONS

THE ICONS IN THIS COLLECTIONS ARE SO MANY IN NUMBER THAT IT IS SUGGESTED THAT YOU TRY TO PLACE THEM IN MORE THEN ONE SUB-DIRECTORY ON YOUR HARD DISK. THE ICONS HAVE BEEN COMPRESSED IN SIZE BY 'PKZIP'.

If you do not know how to use the self-extracting ZIP files, I have included a README.TXT file on the JULY DOM that I hope will help you.

## THE LIBRARIAN'S SHELVES

By Dick Koerper

Well friends and neighbors it's time to find out the latest scuttlebutt concerning the Amiga. According to the "Amiga World" hotline, the fate of the Amiga lies in the hands of the Bahamian legal system. According to reports the courts have appointed a Board of Trustees to field offers for the rights for the Amiga technology. If any of you are interested you have until July 15, 1994 to let your intentions be known to this board. Oh by the way don't forget to send along your cash deposit. Probable asking price would be to pay off Commodore's debtors. As of this writing there appear to be six companies expressing an interest, although only one company has officially thrown their hat into the ring. Even more good news this company who shall remain nameless because of legal reasons, has said that they want to continue the complete Amiga line including the 1200, the 4000, CD-32 and are planning to continue R&D to keep the line vital.

According to "Amiga World" magazine within 1 to 2 weeks after July 15, we should know the decision of the Bahamian court.

You can either keep an eye on this column for further developments, or if you are as impatient as I am you can contact the "Amiga World" hotline at 1-800-441-4403 ext. 365 for a pre-recorded update.

---

## MINUTES

By John Hubbard

The meeting was opened at 7:00 pm by president Mike Taphorn.

Mike asked for acceptance of the financial and minutes as they were printed in the BITS & Chips, the vote was affirmative.

A tally was poled for those members desiring to attend the St. Louis Cardinal ball game as a group, as there were no show of hands, the activity was cancelled.

A report on the scuttlebutt on the Commodore situation was made by Jim Tomlinson. It seems that there are at least one offer to buy the company, perhaps more. The news coming out of the Bahamas are sketchy, as the meetings are closed to the press and the public.

Meeting closed at 7:50. A graphics video was shown. Another graphic video next month.

## PROJECT OBELISK

By Richard L. Collins

---

### PLANNING

I considered building a PC computer for many moons, and finally committed to the project, codename PROJECT OBELISK. Why?

I've used Lotus, Wordstar, Word Perfect, Turbo C, Windows, Dbase, BASIC, and a dozen DOS flavors since 1980. I am familiar with the O/S and popular software. I saw Return To Zork (the series being an all time favorite) on CD-ROM; I realized it would never see my beloved Amiga, which IS vastly superior to Microsoft's crap. But, like Betamax lost to VHS, superior BS wins over super technology.

Several announcements by American software houses said they would stop Amiga support and announcing new IBM titles. Better graphics and audio helped and my brother bought one. I already had an extra 325 meg hard drive in my Amiga 4000 and an SVGA monitor & card. Resolve became fact when Commodore filed for liquidation.

---

### ACQUISITION

The major parts of a PC computer are a video monitor, keyboard, and CPU case for the power supply, motherboard, ram, and drives.

**VIDEO MONITOR/CARD:** I had bought a .28 dot pitch non interlaced monitor from Plato's for use with a 386 bridgeboard in my Amiga 4000. It worked okay, but I didn't like the interface and gave the bridgeboard away. The video card had 512K memory, which was okay, but I wanted more. 32 bit color cards were too costly, so I got a 24 bit color card with an 8 bit sound blaster on it.

**CASE-KEYBOARD-POWER:** I needed a case. S. Leathers suggested a black tower, which appealed to me. We found a BIG Black Tower (room for goodies) in Computer Shopper from Fridays Electronics w/250 watt power and matching black keyboard.

**MOTHERBOARD-RAM:** The motherboard, the heart of the system, is a 386, which means it came with a 386 DX-40, but I can buy a 486 chip cheap after the upcoming chip wars. Being Amiga spoiled, I went off the deep end with 16 megs of ram.

**FLOPPY-HARDDISK:** A cheap multi i/o controller gave it two serial ports, 1 parallel port, floppy and IDE hard disk controller. My original floppy was a corrupted Amiga high density floppy, but I replaced it with a genuine IBM drive. I raped my Amiga 4000 for its 325 meg hard drive, and considered

**CD ROM:** The last hardware item, a CD DRIVE, I got at Best Buy. It is double-speed for \$148; mine was 10% off with no box sleeve.

---

### CONSTRUCTION

---

Gathering the parts on my kitchen table, I set 30 jumpers on the motherboard and mounted it in the obelisk. I was disappointed, but not surprised, when it failed my first test. I took it back and tested the new motherboard in the store; it worked fine.

I put the new motherboard, controller card and floppy in. Again, disappointed, but not surprised, it failed too. A pin was missing on the controller card. I replaced it. The hard disk being Amiga formatted confused poor MS-DOS. I reinstalled it in the 4000, corrupting it thoroughly, then MS-DOS accepted it. The CD ROM installed easily, but I had trouble with the sound cards and addresses, never having used them before.

The project (stage 1) is complete. I have a fast working full sized 386DX-40 Black Obelisk with a 325 meg hd, 16 megs of ram, two floppies, double speed CD-ROM multi-media system which can't touch my Amiga 4000's multitasking, 60 frames per second. I do feel rewarded and satisfied, enjoying Mad Dog McCree on CD ROM this weekend. I could have cut my costs with prudent shopping; here are my costs:

---

Check the date on the mailing label for the expiration date of your membership.

|                                                            |        |
|------------------------------------------------------------|--------|
| *Video Monitor (.28 dot pitch, multi-sync, non-interlaced) | \$230  |
| Video 1MB card/8Bit (Thunder & Lightning Card)             | \$ 85  |
| CASE-POWER SUPPLY (FULL SIZED TOWER)                       | \$125  |
| MOTHERBOARD With AMD 386 DX-40 processor                   | \$175  |
| *325 MEG HARD DISK                                         | \$310  |
| FLOPPY DISK (3.5 " HD) (I got ripped on this one)          | \$ 61  |
| FLOPPY DISK (5.25" HD) (I ripped 'em right back)           | \$ 18  |
| CONTROLLER CARD.                                           | \$ 23  |
| CD ROM.                                                    | \$143  |
| MOUNTING HARDWARE FOR DISK DRIVES                          | \$ 25  |
| Keyboard.                                                  | \$ 35  |
| *Microsoft Mouse.                                          | FREE   |
| 16 Megabytes of Ram less volume cost break.                | \$496  |
| Total Delivered system (Tax included).                     | \$1725 |

\*Items I already had prior to starting Project Obelisk.

Could I have bought a similar system cheaper? Yes, but I would have had a (1) a unified motherboard (with soldered on ports) and (2) a smaller harddrive (3) less memory (for certain) and (4) no CD and no fun, pain or reward building it. 386 chips are dated, so no fair comparison can be made. I conclude you can buy almost as cheaply as you can build, only missing personal customization, the cash flow edge of buying by components, and your own repairs and upgrades. I do not recommend this route to technophobes. Each component carries its own warranty.

---

## HOT & SPICY CHICKEN WINGS

(Serves 8)

12 Chicken Wings

1 Tbsp catsup

1 Tsp Tabasco sauce

1/2 Tsp garlic powder

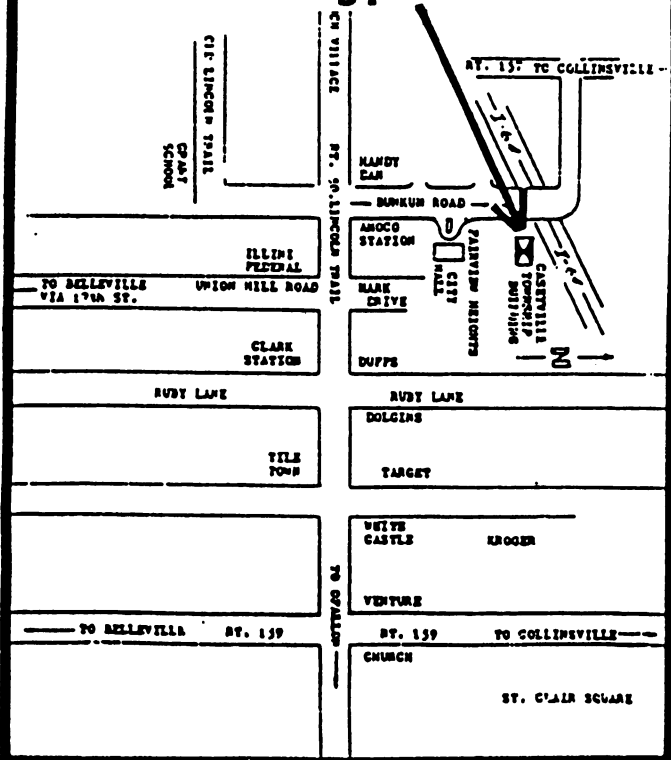
1/4 cup butter or margarine, melted  
corn oil for frying

1. Remove tips from wings, discard
2. Separate first and second joint of wings. Pat wings dry with a paper towel
3. Heat about 2 inches of oil in a heavy saucepot to 350 deg. F.
4. Fry wings about 6 mins. until golden brown; drain on paper towel.
5. Combine butter, catsup, tabasco sauce and garlic powder in small bowl; mix well.
6. Toss wing pieces in butter mixture to coat thoroughly. Serve hot or at room temperature.

BON APPETITE

Reprint from HACG, The Computer Chronicle.

## Gateway Computer Club meeting place



## GCC Directory

### Next Meeting:

July 20th 1994 7:00pm

### Next Exec. Bd. Meeting:

August 3rd 1994 7:00pm  
at the WESTERN SIZZLIN

### Next Copy Session:

At all regular Meetings.

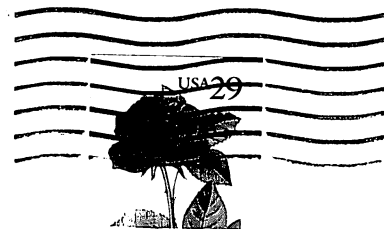
### Visitors Always Welcome

### At Meetings

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Check your dues date!

# First Class

# ***Bits & Chips***

## **of the Gateway Computer Club**

Volume 11

August 1994

Number 8

### **President's Page**

By Mike Taphorn

#### ***Commodore News...***

I have heard some new rumors....but, I'll let the rumors to our librarian Dick Koerper. He assured me that he would call the hot line to find out all the latest Commodore Info...**COME TO THE MEETING AND SHARE ANY RUMORS YOU MAY HAVE HEARD.**

#### ***NEW JOB FOR THE PRES.***

Well, after a month at my new job I am still learning new things about my company on a daily basis. I have been quite busy lately and my responsibilities are growing at an alarming rate. I am having fun and working with a lot of dedicated and friendly people. I'll keep you posted if anything really exciting happens.

#### ***Personal Recollections & Other Information***

As I said at the last meeting, I think that as members of a club we should not only share our computer information, but we should also be willing to help each other out in other ways too. I told everyone that I would write an article describing how I got into computers and what my personal interests include. So here goes...

I started out in computers in the summer of 1983...My father bought me a Commodore 64 for my 8th grade graduation. I was really upset at the time because I was hoping for a 35mm camera. I went with a friend of mine to Dale Wentz's (The original founder of the G.C.C.) house to get together with a bunch of other people who had VIC-20's. When I showed up with a C-64, everyone went nuts... we played with the thing for

hours and hours. One night about 50 people showed up at Dale's house and he decided that we had better find a better (bigger) place to meet and that we should probably form a club. That is how the G.C.C. started way back when. Back in those days I only had a tape drive to store programs on and there were only a few professionally written packages available as the computer was so new. The C-64 soon caught on, and then it seemed that everyone had one and we all had more software than we knew what to do with. I remember having copy sessions that lasted all night. I graduated from the C-64 to a C-128 when they became available and after the C-128 I purchased an Amiga 2000 with an 8088 bridge card. I currently own an Amiga 3000 (Which I used to write this article.), an Amiga 2000 (I still have the original 8088 bridge card.), and a couple C-64's just for the fun of it. I have a large collection of software and I enjoy playing games and rendering landscapes with VistaPro. I enjoy playing action oriented games, I figure I have to play them while my reflexes are still pretty good. I do enjoy playing adventure games as long as they're not completely impossible for the average player.

Well that is probably enough for now, I'll continue next month with more information about myself and what other hobbies and interests I have. I hope I didn't bore you too much...

---

### **Editor's Note**

By Larry Briggs

As you can see there is not much room for me to write my report, our president and librarian had busy fingers this month. More power to them..A good report by Richard on the Commodore plight, I hope it will be settled soon, and will be able to buy Amiga's again.

There will be a surprise demo this month, you will have to come to the meeting to find out..

# Reports

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Larry Briggs

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Lets all give a big welcome to new members. None

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If you have any questions about your membership, See Larry Briggs at the meeting, or call 345-0220.

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By Ken Welker

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N D.O.M. DISKS.....\$ 3.00  
C BLANK DISKS 3.5.....\$ 92.50  
O BLANK DISKS 5.25.....\$ 7.50  
M MEMBERSHIP.....\$ 0.00  
E 50/50.....\$ 13.50

JULY INCOME.....\$ 136.50

E  
X  
P NEWS LETTER.....\$ 26.10  
E POSTAGE.....\$ 10.44  
N  
E  
S  
JULY EXPENSES.....\$ 36.54

CURRENT BALANCE.....\$682.95  
AS OF AUG. 1, 1994

## Amiga D.O.M. AUG. 94

by Jim Tomlinson

**ALIGN** - A CLI based floppy drive alignment program.

**AmiFlick** - Have you ever wanted to use your Amiga to handle all those zillions of FLI files for PeeCee's? Well, now there's AmiFlick. It can play FLI's or write them to disk as a bunch of IFF's. It can also handle the newer format of FLI's (sometimes called FLC's). This is version 2.02 and is an upgrade to an earlier GCC disk.

**aMiPEG** - aMiPEG is a player for MPEG video streams for the Commodore Amiga. It is based upon the Berkeley X-Windows player version 2.0, with major changes in speed and size. Main advantages are much faster decoding of the streams compared with other products based on the Berkeley sources, and a real-time scaling to fit on a complete HAM screen (no thumbnail animations anymore!).

**BigBrother** - BigBrother is a virus infection detection program with some optional utilities. BigBrother is capable of starting a new shell, starting script files, viewing and installing bootblocks.

**DiskTest** - What is DT? It is a program that checks the integrity of floppy disks, if you need to archive your data on floppies, it is better to be sure that all the files you have copied are readable (before deleting the same data from your hard disk). This program, named DT for "Disk Test", checks the whole floppy: in two steps, firstly reading all the tracks one by one to be sure that the support itself is reliable; and then reading, record by record, all the files on the disc.

**FBase** - FBase stands for Floppy Base and is a simple database used to hold information about the contents of floppy disks. The programs enables you to read the entire directory tree of a disk, edit the data, and then use the Find command to search for specific files. You may also print your database contents for hard-copy reference.

**JNet** - Here is a nifty little CLI utility that you can use to transfer files from your Amiga to a C64/C128 or vice/versa. Warning: This is a beta version.

**QDisk** - QDisk provides you with the ability to monitor, from WorkBench, the space usage of all AMIGA DOS disk volumes that are currently mounted. QDisk can also send you a notification using a standard requester or a recoverable alert when usage exceeds a limit set by you.

## Special Amiga disk for August 1994

By Jim Tomlinson

**Apple2000** - Apple 2000 is the premier Apple ][ emulator for the Amiga computer. At its current level it accurately emulates a 64K Apple ][+, including 6502 CPU, ALL video modes (Text, LoRes, HiRes, Mixed modes, etc), 16k RAM card (64k computer),

**5.25"** disk drive (via disk images), Two button joystick, Keyboard and Sound. The emulation also runs in a completely system friendly manner, multitasking properly with other programs.

**MagicBoy** - Originally a commercial program, a very good platform style game. Must be run from CLI.

**PubDarts** - If you like throwing darts, this game just might keep you out of the bars and on your Amiga. CLI run.

---

## MS-DOS D.O.M. AUG. 94

Ken Welker

### MEDIT330

MEDITRAK is a medical/dental billand payment tracker. It also records your insurance payments and your own payments. Keeps track of all of your prescription costs too! Prevents in-advertent over-payments. Spot errors from your providers. Organizes your record-keeping. Produces reports. Get all your medical costs for Tax time!

### MEDIT211

Mega Edit (TM) v2.11 <ASP> - The very popular general purpose text editor for Microsoft Windows that can edit very large files. Chosen one of the best programs for less than \$50.00 in PC World roundup. Split window feature, understands DOS, UNIX, Mac text file formats, edits up to 20 files at once, sizeable display fonts, many other features.

### MSD210

Microsoft Diagnostics (MSD) is an MS-DOS-based utility designed to provide Microsoft customers and Microsoft Product Support Services (PSS) personnel with detailed technical information about a computer's hardware and software components. This information can be helpful when you are trying to diagnose and solve problems with Microsoft products.

Continued Page 4 IBM



## THE LIBRARIAN'S SHELVES

By Dick Koerper

Believe it or not I am starting my article for the August newsletter on July 22, almost three full weeks before it is due. I hope Larry's heart can handle this. But I have been reading in the Macintosh magazines, again allow me to apologize but since I work with them all day I feel I must keep up on them, and they seem to be all atwitter over their new technologies. Would you believe they say that their machines can multitask, do any of you Amiga owners out there know what multitasking is?

There is even one respected writer for a major Mac mag. who says that the new Power P.C.. Macintosh is the first dual operating system, except for those being used by hackers who ran DOS and UNIX, and then later those who ran OS/2 and DOS/Windows. Isn't this amazing! All these new things they can do with Macs.

I am sorry but maybe these chauvinistic computer geniuses should quit trying to do anatomically impossible things with their heads and take a long look around. I wish I had kept better track of magazine articles that I have read, but I do know that back in the 80's I read an article about a group of computer hackers, who using at that time, existing hardware, were able to configure an Amiga 2000 to run Amiga software, Apple II software, Dos software, Mac software, Commodore 64 and UNIX software. And now the Mac forces are reveling over their cross platform machine.

Please do not get me wrong the Macintosh is an excellent machine, but I get really tired of small minds not even recognizing the existence of a machine that was so far ahead of it's time, that what other machines are touting as innovative technology, we Amiga owners have had for almost a decade.

## LEGAL NEWS

According to the "Amiga World" hotline, the latest news at least as of Thursday July 21st, the court appointed trustees overseeing the sale and bankruptcy proceedings for Commodore in the Bahamas have received at least 4 and possibly more offers on the rights to the Amiga. These groups include Samsung out of Korea, a possible joint venture by Phillips and Amstrad of the United Kingdom, Commodore U.K., and an American group headed up by a former Commodore America official. Relax they were very specific to point out that this person was neither Irving Gould or Medhi Ali.

The way it sounds the last two groups mentioned, specifically Commodore U.K. and the group from the United States, want to keep the entire Amiga line viable and as "innovative" as always.

Samsung and the combined Phillips-Amstrad forces have not made their dispositions clear.

Again we are looking at a time frame of 3-4 weeks before we hear anything concrete.

P.S. I called Plato's July 25th, they do not support

the Amiga anymore. Pity, I no longer support Plato's.

Jay Miner

The Amiga community is mourning the loss of the father of the Amiga. Jay passed away June 20th.

To those who do not know who Jay Miner was, he was a former employee of Atari who decided to follow his own dream and left Atari in 1982 (a very questionable decision at that time) and founded what became the Amiga Corporation. Jay was a visionary, and if you will excuse the expression, a true innovator in the world of personal computers.

So if you look up into the sky, and notice it is a brighter blue, and the clouds are whiter and more animated, well maybe Jay talked God into using an Amiga.

Dick Koerper

---

From Page 3 IBM

## QM31

QuikMenu III is an icon-based graphical menu and desktop for DOS. Included are powerful utility & file management features. Launches all DOS-based software. Modem dial, Password protect, screen saver, phone database, use tracking, background wallpaper, freeform layout & more.

## HUGO2

HUGO II, WHODUNIT an adventure game.

---

## MINUTES

By John Hubbard

July 20 / 94

President Taphorn opened the meeting at 7:05pm.

Treasure were accepted as printed in the Bits & Chips.

Membership, No report.

Minutes were accepted as printed in the Bits & Chips..

It was reported that the club will do away with the P.O. box, and all mail will go to the President Taphorn's home.

No new business.

President. closed the meeting at 7:25pm.

Demo's followed...



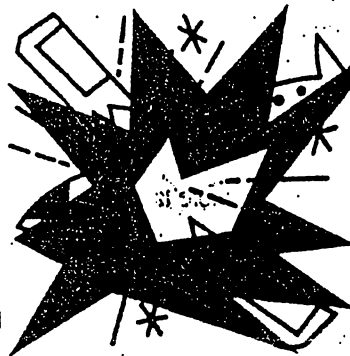
Analytical Systems Incorporated

## What if Operating Systems Ran Airlines?

Somebody on the net asked that preposterous question and here are the responses, as told to us by Alan Paller, Computer Associates International Inc.'s director of open systems.

### DOS Airline

Everybody pushes the airplane until it glides, then they jump on and let the plane coast until it hits the ground again, then push again, jump on again, and so on.



### Mac Airways

All the stewards, captains, baggage handlers, and ticket agents look the same, act the same, and talk the same.

Every time you ask questions about details, you are told you don't need to know, don't want to know, and everything will be done for you without you having to know, so just shut up.

### Windows Airline

The airport terminal is nice and colorful with friendly stewards, easy access to the plane, an uneventful takeoff...then the plane blows up without any warning whatsoever.

### Fly NT

Everyone marches out onto the runway, says the password in unison, and forms the outline of an airplane. Then they all sit down and make a whooshing sound like they're flying.

### Unix Airline

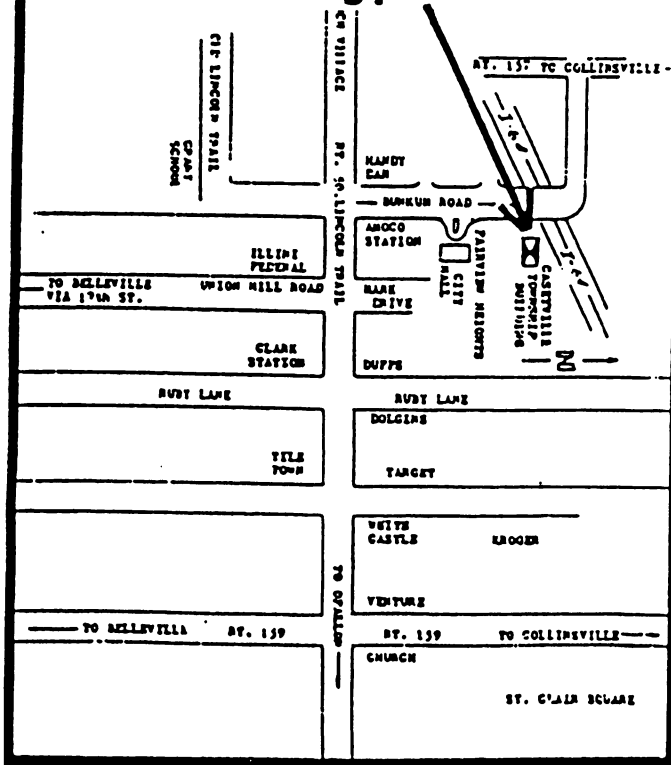
Everyone brings one piece of the plane with them when they come to the airport. They all go out on the runway and put the plane together piece by piece, arguing constantly about what kind of plane they're building.

10121 Paget Drive, Suite 100

St. Louis, Missouri 63132

314-997-8979

## Gateway Computer Club meeting place



## GCC Directory

### Next Meeting:

AUGUST 17th. 1994 7:00pm

### Next Exec. Bd. Meeting:

Sept 7th 1994 7:00pm  
At the WESTERN SIZZLIN  
Fairview Heights, IL

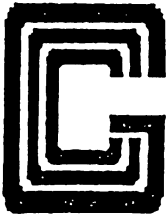
### Next Copy Session:

AT ALL REGULAR MEETINGS

## Visitors Always Welcome

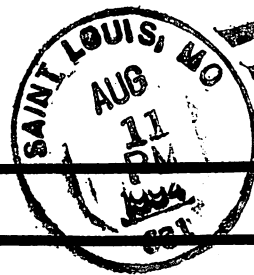
### At Meetings

Meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at the Caseyville Township Hall, 10010 Bunkum Road in Fairview Heights



## GATEWAY COMPUTER CLUB

101 Spring Glen  
Collinsville, IL 62234



Check your dues date!

# First Class

# ***Bits & Chips***

## **of the Gateway Computer Club**

Volume 11

September 1994

Number 9

### **President's Page**

By Mike Taphorn

*Hello from the Pres...*

*Commodore News...*

Again, I have heard some rumors....but, I'll leave the rumors to our librarian Dick Koerper...**COME TO THE MEETING AND SHARE ANY RUMORS YOU MAY HAVE HEARD.**

*New look for Bits & Chips*

We are planning on trying to add some fancy graphics to the Bits & Chips... We'll see next issue if we succeeded.

**Personal Recollections & Other Information**  
**Part II**

I started out last month planning to tell you about myself. I ended up talking about how the club started. I'll try not to get lost this month.

I am the youngest of five children. I was born and raised in Belleville. Two years ago I got married and moved out of my parents home to live with my new wife, Beverly. After we were married we rented a condo behind Sonny & Chars restaurant on the bluffs in Collinsville. Larry Briggs, our editor, was kind enough to help us get into his condominium complex. We enjoyed our stay there quite a bit. No yardwork, the pool, a convenient location for commuting... All was quiet until last December. We went through a stress filled week. We decided to buy a house... Our first house payment was due on the day the company I worked for decided to close its doors. In addition to

losing my job and buying a house, my father passed away that same week. Needless to say, we survived. I think we are a little stronger because of all we went through together. The house we bought is located in Collinsville and we have been busy doing the yard work and cleaning ever since.

That is probably enough about myself for now.

*Jim Is Back*

Jim Tomlinson is back from his training. He volunteered to help everyone who has been having trouble running the D.O.M.'s at the September meeting. Bring your questions and your disks to the meeting and hopefully all your problems will be solved.

*New SIG*

We are going to try to start a special interest group for all the members who are interested in modems. Please see Larry Briggs or myself at the next meeting if you are interested in getting together with us.

### **DEMO THIS MONTH**

This month's demo will be an Apple Powerbook. Dick Koerper is planning on bringing in his work computer so we can compare it to an IBM portable. It should be interesting to see how the Powerbook performs.

See you at the meeting.

Mike

# Reports

## The Club

The Gateway Computer Club is a not-for-profit organization of like-minded computer users. Membership fee is \$15.00 per year. Members receive access to the club's public domain library, educational programs, literature and monthly Bits & Chips Newsletter.

Direct all membership applications and questions to the Gateway Computer Club c/o Mike Taphorn, 101 Spring Glen, Collinsville IL 62234

Only public domain programs are kept in the G.C.C. library. Reproduction of copyrighted software is not promoted nor condoned by the G.C.C. and will not be tolerated at club functions.

## The Officers

PRES: Mike Taphorn.....345-2197  
V.P.: Diego Cardenas.....624-6493  
SEC: John Hubbard.....345-1934  
TRES: Ken Welker.....234-5901  
EDITOR: Larry Briggs.....345-0220  
LIBR: Richard Koerper.....452-5110  
ASST LIBR: (AMIGA).....Jim Tomlinson  
ASST LIBR: (MS-DOS).....Ken Welker  
MEMBERSHIP: Larry Briggs.....345-0220

## Bits & Chips

Please direct all submissions and advertising to Editor Larry Briggs, 1021 Lafayette Ct. Collinsville, IL 62234. Camera ready advertising must be received by the first of the month to be included in the issue of the month.

Rates are as follows: Full page- \$15.00, Half page- \$7.50, Quarter page- \$3.75, and business card- \$10.00 for 6 months.

Contents of the Bits & Chips may be reprinted by other club newsletters if accompanied by the author's name and credit is given to the GATEWAY COMPUTER CLUB. The G.C.C. assumes no liability for errors in articles or advertisements.

## Membership Report

Larry Briggs

As of September 1st.-1994 we have 31 active members in our club.

Lets all give a big welcome to new members. None

THANKS AGAIN for continuing Their membership with us. Ken Welker, and Ruth Shaw.

I would like to inform these members that their membership will expire this Coming meeting. Juanita Welker, Scott Leathers, Charles Trotter.

These Members will be dropped as they have not renewed their membership. None

If you have any questions about your membership, See Larry Briggs at the meeting, or call 345-0220.

## Treasure's Report

By Ken Welker

Balance Aug. 1, 1994.....\$682.95

I D.O.M. CARDS.....\$ 0.00  
N D.O.M. DISKS.....\$ 4.00  
C BLANK DISKS 3.5.....\$ 0.00  
O BLANK DISKS 5.25.....\$ 4.75  
M MEMBERSHIP.....\$ 15.00  
E 50/50.....\$ 7.00

AUG. INCOME.....\$ 30.75

E  
X  
P NEWS LETTER.....\$ 25.00  
E POSTAGE.....\$ 10.44  
N  
E  
S

AUG. EXPENSES.....\$ 35.44

CURRENT BALANCE.....\$678.26  
AS OF SEPT. 1, 1994

## Amiga D.O.M. Sept. 94

by Jim Tomlinson

**CheckDouble** - CheckDouble will first read all directories that are in the current path, storing the entries that match the following conditions: the entry doesn't match #?.info, the entry is a file or a hard link to a file, the entry is not a soft link or a directory, the file is readable and executable, the file is at least 16 bytes long. Then it checks for duplicate command names. This means that the programs checks whether there are two commands with the same name in your path. If it finds such a command name, it will output a list of the files found.

**CheckerBoard** - CheckerBoard is a jigsaw-type puzzle with a twist. Nearly any piece can be placed next to any other piece. In fact, it has many completely correct solutions. "Sounds simple," you say? It isn't.

**HyperANSI** - HyperANSI is a program which allows you to easily create ANSI graphics with minimum effort.

**Imperial** - Imperial is a game for one or two players taken from the game of Mah-Jongg.

**ST** - If you ever wanted to play some Atari ST games but didn't want to spend the money on one; do I have a deal for you! ST is an Atari ST emulator which will actually run FASTER than a stock ST.

**WarZone** - This is a war game for up to four players. At least two players are required, but the game is better when there are four. The object of the game is to destroy your opponent(s) armies and capture their headquarters. The game is played on a large 50 x 50 square map. There are different types of terrain on the map such as plains, forests, rivers and mountains. The terrain affects the speed at which your armies may move across the land, and also their defensive strength. There are six kinds of military unit in your army. These are Infantry, Tanks, Radar, Missile Launcher, Engineers, and Aircraft. Each has a different strengths and weaknesses.

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### Special Amiga disk Sept.1994

**SuperBattleZone** - Super Battle Zone (SBZ) a 3D shoot-em-up much like the old battlezone in the arcades.

**Yatcy** - Perhaps the best Yahtzee clone ever made.

## MS-DOS D.O.M. Sept. 94

Ken Welker

### 2M21.EXE

2M is not only the highest capacity formatter at this moment, but also 2M diskettes are the faster ones.

### ADM216S.EXE

Welcome to the Advanced DOS Menu system, DosMenu The version of DosMenu you are about to use is ShareWare. It is a fully working version, with a "Reminder to Register" message.

### CRUSH11.EXE

CRUSH v1.1 - <ASP> Super-compressor for DOS. Fed up with limited compression performance of Stacker, PKZIP (2.04g), ZOO, ARJ and LHA? CRUSH will usually give 5%-50% improved compression over any other DOS compression tool, & yet allows the user to continue using the archiver already in use. CRUSH is fast & the ideal choice for users keen to save disk space. Too good to be true? No! Try it!

### GAMES1.EXE

An Assortment of 10 games.

### UNSTAL02.EXE

Rosenthal UnInstall v2 <ASP> - Safely remove unwanted Windows and DOS programs. All new files, directories and system changes may be kept or automatically removed and the system restored. Supports single and network DOS and Windows users. This Rosenthal Engineering program is an absolute necessity for anyone trying out new shareware, CD-ROMs or demos.

### VISION1.EXE

ProjectVison is one of the finest Project Management, Scheduling, Budgeting, and Status analysis programs on earth. ProjectVision has a superb "Schedule Network" based user interface \* Supports Task, Milestone, and Subproject Activities \* Allows interactive drawing of dependencies and schedule,\* Provides access into and return from Subprojects with a single mouse click \* Provides user control of displayed and printed activity information \* WYSIWYG Network Chart user interface and chart print out capability All programs on this disk are self extracting ZIP files

## THE LIBRARIAN'S SHELVES

By Dick Koerper

Well I have to be honest, even though it is just two days before deadline I was planning on writing this column tomorrow, but I was sitting here watching Dave's World and what can I say the writing bug just bit me and here I am being efficient again. Sometimes I just don't understand myself.

The worst part is that I really don't have alot to write about at this time. Called "Amiga World" today, there isn't anything new on that front but I will try to call them tomorrow just to make sure.

On the personal front I traded Rich Collins a Kaypro 10 and a Televideo along with a piece of lab equipment for a Macintosh Plus. There seems to be a problem with the analog board on the Mac. Seems that there is a design flaw in the Plus that because of heating and cooling causes cold solder spots which messes up continuity in the board.

Choices are to either purchase another board and install it myself, approximate cost \$135.00, take it somewhere and have another installed, approximate cost \$200.00, or take the bull by the horns, remove the offending analog board and hunt down the cold solder spots and repair them. Wish me luck because I am going to be spending some time with soldering iron in hand. If anyone is interested I will tell them the results at the next meeting.

Also on a personal note after being hardcopyless for about 3/4ths of a year I finally broke down and took my printer in for repairs. Boy do I feel foolish, after \$35.00 and a thorough cleaning, it is operating as good as new. Shows what procrastination can do for you.

T.T.F.N.  
Dick Koerper

---

## MINUTES

By John Hubbard

Minutes Aug 94

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm by president Mike Taphorn.

The Treasurer's report and minutes from

the last meeting were approved as printed in the Bits & Chips.

A short report on the Commodore situation, and as usual, not much to report.

The business meeting was closed at 8:10pm

There was a demonstration on an SX64 showing graphics from an Amiga, sure looked good, but was not assured that the program would run. We all knew that.

Some members were helped with some problems on an Ms-DOS Laptop. Thanks Ken.

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## Editor's Note

By Larry Briggs

### Scanning with MS-DOS Computer

Page five of this month's Bits & Chips is a reprint from a newsletter from the SCUG NEWS, Sandwich Computer Club User's Group however I did not retype or cut and paste it. I used a new program and Scanner to scan and OCR the copy, edit it and print it in this month's Bits & Chips. The Scanner is an IBM full page color scanner, the program is called Wordscan OCR (Optical Character Recognition.)

Now I will try to explain how it is done. The article was on two pages in three parts, I scanned each part, ran them through the OCR program, saved them under different names, The scanned copy was about 97% perfect, there was 3% that had to be edited.

The Wordscan program does not allow you edit your work but it will automatically save it to your word processor, mine is Words for Windows. It is very simple to edit all three parts of the article. I Ran them through a word spell to further clean them up, then saved all three parts on an low density disk so that it could be read on my Amiga, using Dos to Dos.

I then imported each part into PageStream, a Publishing program, after the first part is placed on the page the cursor is placed at the end of the last part and it will flow into it right place. After all three parts are on the page, the fonts can be changed, line spacing and any other changes made to make the copy fit the page.

This is a very neat way to use other printed work and not have to retype it, especially when you type as slow as I do, two hands, two fingers.

# Automap for Windows

by Paul Perdue

I've always been fascinated with road maps. As a child, I collected them to explore far away places such as Chicago, New York or Los Angeles. I would also take two or three maps on vacation to help guide dad to our annual destination in Atlanta to visit grandma. After all these were the days before Interstate 20, and there was the remote possibility that we could get lost. Now that I'm grown, I still have a box full of maps up in the closet. I'm even a member of AAA and have access to unlimited maps and travel books to anywhere in the USA. You can imagine my excitement when I found out this program was available for review. Now let's look at the program.

The program is supplied on five low density 3 1/2 disks. You install it from the Window's program manager and when it is finished it installs a Automap icon on your desk top. The program opens with a view of the United States showing the interstate system and all the major cities. Above the map you have your typical Window's layout consisting of pull down menus and a series of icons called a toolbar. You can access different features of the program by using the toolbar or the file menu. You work with clear, detailed, colorful, up-to-date maps of the United States, Canada, and northern Mexico. Plan routes using 410,203 miles of freeways, toll ways, state and county roads, and more than 120,000 places. You can zoom in any region, state, or place. Add your own home to the map and use it as a starting point for planning trips. From the opening map you can use the mouse to place a box around the area that you are interested in and click on it. A more detailed map will appear of the area you boxed in. You can repeat the process until you have the exact area that you are interested in. Now you can click the mouse on highways in the area, and the highway number will appear. You can click close to where small towns are supposed to be and their names will pop up. You can add as much or as little detail as you wish.

Each state and many cities have small blue icons on the map that you can click on and a box opens with information about that place. For each state it lists the population, total area, capital, number of interstate miles, number of registered vehicles, speed limits, seatbelt laws, insurance regulations and telephone numbers for tourism information.

If you don't know where a place is, just click on the crossed arrow icon and a window will open. Type in the city, place, national park, river or just about anything else you can think of and click OK. The program will come back with a list of choices. Click on the one you want, and instantly you are there.

If you are planning a trip, just click the green flag icon and place it where you want to start, then click on the checkered flag icon and place it at your destination. You can choose options such as the shortest route, the quickest or a favorite route. You can add up to two yellow flags along the way and the program will route you through these locations. The route will be highlighted on the screen, and a driving guide will be generated on the screen. The guide will list where you are, what highway to take, what direction you are going, how far to go on this highway and then as you change to a different highway you go to the next line until you reach your destination. At the bottom of the screen, it will list the total number of miles and the amount of time the trip will take. You also have the option to edit how fast you go on different types of highways. The driving guide and the on screen maps can be printed so you can take them with you.

This summer we went to Hilton Head on vacation so I decided to use this as my test trip for the program. It routed me out of Augusta on US 278 to SC125 through the bomb plant and back on highway 278 to Hilton Head. Using my paper map, I took 278 out of Augusta to 125

through the plant but I then turned on SC 3 which took me through Estell where I took US 321 back to US 278 and into Hilton Head. By going this way, I only went through one wide place in the road instead of several. Automap couldn't route me down SC 3 because it isn't in the program's data base. I also noticed that GA 104, aka Washington Road, isn't in the program's data base.

I decided to give the program one final test to see just how extensive the database was. If it could answer this question, then it is truly a great program and every household should have a copy. I went to the crossed arrow icon and clicked on it and the go to box opened. I typed in Grovetown, Georgia. I clicked OK and the program came back with three choices but not Grovetown. Down the right side of the box was another list of different databases such as time zone, mountains, other features, water features and smaller towns. I clicked on smaller towns and to my amazement a long list of choices appeared, and the first one listed was Grovetown Ga. I clicked OK and the program took me to Grovetown, Ga!

I would recommend this program to anyone who takes a lot of trips or to someone like myself who is interested in traveling around the country via a computer map. The program is colorful and works well, but should be used along with traditional fold up maps, not take the place of them.

## Company:

Automap Inc.  
9831 South 51st Street  
Building C- 113  
Phoenix, Arizona 85 044  
(602) 893-2400

## Requirements:

2 MB RAM  
Hard disk with at least 5 MB free  
Microsoft Windows 3.X  
Microsoft compatible Mouse optional

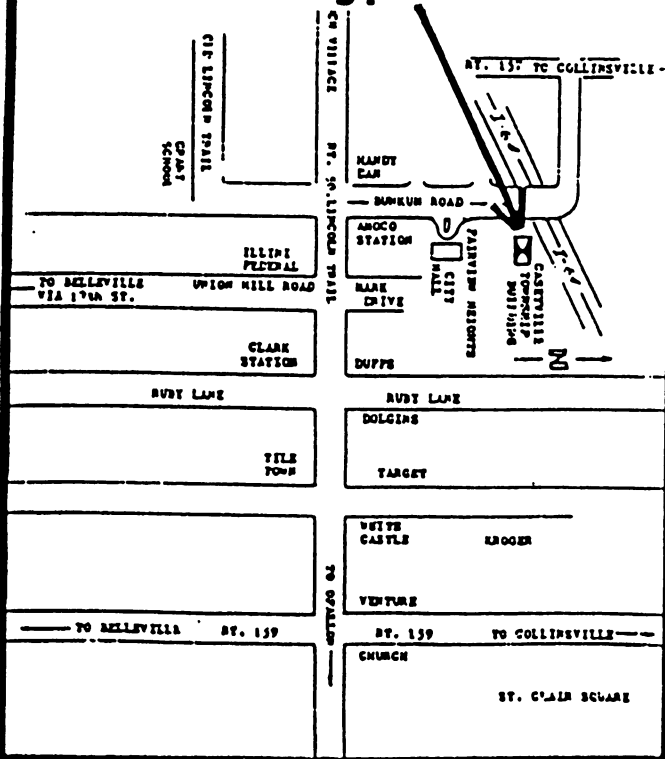
## Price:

\$59.97 at discount stores

Reprint from the Scug News, July 1994 issue,  
Newsletter of the Sandwich Computer users  
Group.



## Gateway Computer Club meeting place



# GCC Directory

## Next Meeting:

September 21st. 1994 7:00pm

## Next Exec. Bd. Meeting:

Oct. 5th 1994 7:00pm  
at the WESTERNSIZZLIN  
Fairview Heights, Il

## Next Copy Session:

At all Regular Meetings

## Visitors Always Welcome

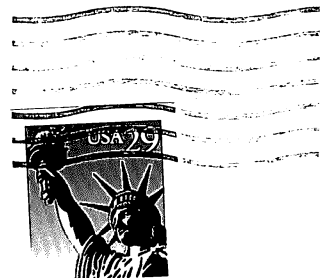
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Meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at the Caseyville Township Hall, 10010 Bunkum Road in Fairview Heights



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**101 Spring Glen  
Collinsville, IL 62234**



## Check your dues date!

# First Class

# ***Bits & Chips***

## **of the Gateway Computer Club**

Volume 11

October 1994

Number 10

### **President's Page**

By Mike Taphorn

#### ***Commodore News...***

Still no definite news on Commodore as far as I know...I have heard some rumors....Hopefully by the meeting night we'll have some definite news. I really think that one of the two bidders that plans on producing Amigas right away will win. Let's hope...

#### ***New look for Bits & Chips***

If all goes well, we should have some new graphics in this Bits & Chips. So far, we have not made time to do the digitizing. Hopefully we'll set something up at the board meeting. If not we still have next month. If we do get it done, don't be scared by all the Spooky characters that appear in this the October Issue.

#### ***Personal Recollections & Other Information***

This space was reserved for an article from one of our members to discuss what they remember about the early years of the club or for a personal biography similar to what I did last month. If anyone is interested in filling up this slot in our newsletter, please write an article and bring it to the next meeting so I can put something in this spot next month. Thanks in advance for your articles....

#### ***Jim Is Back (I Hope)***

Jim Tomlinson was supposed to be back from his training last month. He volunteered to help everyone who has been having trouble running the D.O.M.'s and then went on vacation. Oh well, bring your questions

and your disks to the meeting and hopefully all your problems will be solved.

#### ***New SIG***

We are still going to try to start a special interest group for all the members who are interested in modems. PLEASE SEE Larry Briggs or myself at the next meeting if you are interested in getting together with us.

#### ***DEMO THIS MONTH***

This month's demo will be a color scanner. Larry Briggs purchased a new scanner and he has volunteered to bring in his scanner and do a demo and scan some pictures for everyone. Bring in your pictures and see what shows up on a screen near you.

#### ***Birthdays Birthdays Birthdays***

I got a newsletter from one of our sister computer clubs. They had a list of the members with birthdays for the month. This sounds like a good idea to me. I'll see if we can't put together a new column listing all the birthdays in future Bits N' Chips.

#### ***Joke of the Month***

A boy said to his father, "Dad, I just got a part in the school play. I play the part of a man that's been married for 20 years." His father replied, "That's a good start son. Just keep it up and one of these days you'll get a speaking part!"

**See you at the meeting.**

# Reports

## The Club

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## Membership Report

Larry Briggs

As of October 1st.-1994 we have 29 active members in our club.

Lets all give a big welcome to new members. None

THANKS AGAIN for continuing Their membership with us. Scott Leathers, and Richard Collins.

I would like to inform these members that their membership will expire this Coming meeting. Laura Blackwell, Dick Koerper, George/Clara McClaskey, Ken Nocht, John Sundstrom, and Mike Taphorn

These Members will be dropped as they have not renewed their membership. Juanita Welker, and Charles Trotter.

If you have any questions about your membership, See Larry Briggs at the meeting, or call 345-0220.

## Treasure's Report

By Ken Welker

Balance Sept. 1, 1994.....\$678.29

I D.O.M. CARDS.....\$ 20.00  
N D.O.M. DISKS.....\$ 24.00  
C BLANK DISKS 3.5.....\$ 116.50  
O BLANK DISKS 5.25.....\$ 0.00  
M MEMBERSHIP.....\$ 45.00  
E 50/50.....\$ 6.50  
VIDEO SENDER.....\$ 50.00

SEPT. INCOME.....\$ 262.00

E  
X  
P NEWS LETTER.....\$ 25.00  
E POSTAGE.....\$ 10.44  
N  
E  
S

SEPT. EXPENSES.....\$ 35.44

CURRENT BALANCE.....\$905.85  
AS OF OCT. 1, 1994

## Amiga D.O.M. Sept. 94

by Jim Tomlinson

**AFILE** - AFile is a data file manager, that is a tool which lets you create and manager your files (addresses, video collections, clients, etc...)using an Intuition interface. There is not limitation to the number of fields or records. The program offers the standard printing, sorting, and data importing/exporting functions. AFile uses AREXX as it's programming language. You can create full input masks with background picture, field positionning, checking of entered data, menus and printing customization.

**ATOMS** - Atoms was originally a game on the Atari ST of which this is a 1000% better version. Objective is to eliminate all of your opponent's atoms from the board. Each player places one atom on his or her turn. Each square on the grid has a visible number of adjacent squares (NOT counting those with BLOCKS in them). If a square has at least one atom for each adjacent square, it will explode, sending one atom into each adjoining location. All squares receiving a new atom as a result of an explosion will take on that atom's color.

**CHOPPER ATTACK** - Chopper Attack is a game for two players. The object is to shoot down the enemy chopper 10 times. This is achieved through judicious use of a machine gun mounted on the front of your craft.

**DEPTH CHARGE** - Depthcharge is based on an old arcade game. You control a submarine destroyer and must destroy as many enemy submarines as possible by dropping depthcharges on them.

---

## Amiga Special Disk of the Month for Oct 1994

**AFORTH** - AFORTH is an implementation of the FORTH programming language for the Commodore Amiga, it adheres very closely to the FORTH-79 standard as defined by the FORTH Standards Team.

**BALDER'S GROVE** - This is yet another Boulderdash clone but this time it is inspired by the Nordic mythology. Your task is to guide Balder - the god of light - through groves filled with berserks and snakes. Collect rings, push runestones and try to find the small passage to the next level.

**HDPRICES** - This is a pricelist for some large capacity hard drives at very good prices. Although I can't vouch for the guy selling these, the

guy writing the foreword is well respected on PORTAL.

**PROTERM RIP** - A small terminal program that features the new graphic standard for BBS'es called RIPSript. I have NOT had a chance to try this out but it MUST be run from CLI.

**VIRUS-CHECKER** - Version 6.43 of this famous virus hunter/killer!

---

## MS-DOS D.O.M. OCT. 94

Ken Welker

**ALITE-R.EXE**

**ALITE v1.20R <ASP>** - Fast, Inexpensive Memory Resident Spreadsheet! TSR mode requires only 7k of conventional memory and supports EMS, XMS or disk swapping. The program will run on any IBM or compatible computer with 256k!

**FILECAB.EXE**

**YOUR FILE CABINET** is an application & file utility that uses folders that each have a variety of features. Several folders have user-configurable buttons, one has 18 of the most popular Windows applets, one has an enhanced notepad feature with folder tabs for each of the DOS & Windows system files and another has several file utilities (copy, move, rename, command-line, search & more).

**FM35.EXE**

**FORM MASTER**

This document describes Form Master, a versatile and powerful forms software package. It allows you to create, modify, fill in, and print forms.

**GBPRO4.EXE**

GrabIt Pro 4.0 allows you to quickly capture screens in Windows 3.1. Save files in both BMP or RLE formats, convert images to monochrome and view size and attributes of graphic before you open it.

**GHOSTC12.EXE**

Ghost Cemetery puts you right into the church graveyard. Here you'll see the 3D 3-Sided Church with fenced in graveyard. When the game starts you'll begin seeing moving 3D tomb stones that read Rest In Peace.

**MPPEDE14.EXE**

**MICROPEDE V1.40**, a Millipede and Centipede style arcade game. Classic arcade action. Needs mouse, 386, and VGA. **FREEWARE**

Continued page 4

## QFTD.EXE

Quote for the Day picks a random quotation and displays it in a small window. You can install Quote for the Day as part of your Windows startup regimen, either in your Program Manager Startup Group (for Windows 3.1) or by the traditional WIN.INI load= method. Or you can use it to look up a quotation that you want to insert into a document.

## THE LIBRARIAN'S SHELVES

By Dick Koerper

Your not going to believe this one, but it seems we have an unconfirmed report that another group has put in a bid for the assets of Commodore International and Commodore America. This one comes from Commodore Germany/Netherlands who may be getting financial backing from a group out of Australia. To be honest I am totally confused, I was under the impression that a deadline was a deadline and that the deadline for putting in a bid passed quite a while ago. Oh well no wonder I am not a lawyer.

Other news on the legal front, the trustees have a deadline ( no I refuse to make a comment here it's too easy ) of October 15th to make their recommendations to the Bahamian court on who they feel should be awarded the assets.

All I can say is they better make up their minds soon are their going to turn around to find their are no real assets to award as everybody has jumped to another platform.

Just to throw another monkey wrench into the works, according to rumors Motorola is trying to purchase Apple Computers. Which poses a potential problem, since Motorola makes the 680x0 chips than run the Amiga how willing are they going to be to sell this technology to a competitor.

The mind boggles at the possibilities. But as for me I am going to close for now and give my mind a rest, I think it's almost time for " Up All Night " with Rhonda Shear.

## MINUTES

By John Hubbard

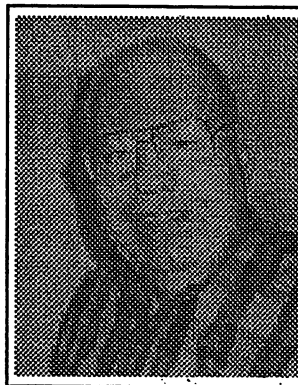
The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by president Taphorn. The minutes and treasurer reports were accepted as printed in the Bits & Chips. A report was made on the Commodore buyout. A discussion on future demos were held

with only one volunteer, Larry Briggs volunteered to demo his new Scanner at the October meeting. A plea was made for more volunteers, **Please help.**

As there was no demonstration for this meeting, the meeting was closed at 8:00pm

## Editor's Note

By Larry Briggs



As you can see, I have added my photo to this month's article. I hope to acquire photo's from all the other board members so that I will be able to add them to their articles. I have to have some use for my new scanner.

I will be bringing my computer and scanner to the October meeting so that I can demonstrate how it works, I will be scanning both pictures and text, bring a picture no larger than 8 X10, and any text you want scanned and OCR'd (Optical character recognition) and saved to your floppy disk so you can edit the text and use in any way needed. If you will be using these scanned images on an Amiga you must bring a low density disk.

Now that Diego Cardenas has returned from his tour of duty in CUBA, I will be looking forward for more articles for the Bits and Chips. It is very difficult to fill up six pages of an newsletter without some contribution from our members. I'm sure more of you can come up with something once in a while. **PLEASE TRY!!**



6 Oct 1994

## Gateway Computer Club Number List

| Club | Firstname    | Lastname    | City           | St | Zip   | Phone        | Sig | Dues | Due      |
|------|--------------|-------------|----------------|----|-------|--------------|-----|------|----------|
| 0040 | Laura        | Blackwell   | Roxana         | Il | 62084 | 618-254-1164 | Am  |      | 1-Oct-94 |
| 0011 | Larry        | Briggs      | Collinsville   | Il | 62234 | 618-345-0220 | Ami |      | 1-Dec-94 |
| 0032 | Tony C.      | Burke       | Collinsville   | Il | 62234 | 618-345-5685 | IBM |      | 1-Nov-94 |
| 0049 | Diego        | Cardenas    | O'Fallon       | Il | 62269 | 618-624-6493 | Ami |      | 1-Jan-95 |
| 0016 | Bob          | Clark       | Belleville     | Il | 62223 | 618-397-5212 | IBM |      | 1-May-95 |
| 0022 | Richard L    | Collins     | Alton          | Il | 62002 | 618-463-1338 | Ami |      | 1-Oct-95 |
| 0050 | Norman.F     | Collins     | Caseyville,    | Il | 62232 | 618-397-5084 | ami |      | 1-Mar-95 |
| 0035 | Dave         | Dawson      | Collinsville   | Il | 62234 | 618-344-0279 | Ami |      | 1-Nov-94 |
| 0039 | Betty        | Feigenbutz  | Caseyville     | Il | 62232 | 618-398-1034 | IBM |      | 1-May-95 |
| 0029 | Lester       | Germann     | Millstadt,     | Il | 62260 | 618-476-1962 | IBM |      | 1-May-95 |
| 0004 | Marvin       | Hirschman   | Lebanon        | Il | 62254 | 618-277-1485 | 64  |      | 1-Nov-94 |
| 0048 | John W       | Hubbard     | Caseyville     | Il | 62232 | 618-345-1934 | IBM |      | 1-Mar-95 |
| 0036 | Ricky G.     | Keller, Sr. | Collinsville   | Il | 62234 | 618-345-7207 | IBM |      | 1-Feb-95 |
| 0037 | Henry        | Kilgus      | Fairview Hgts. | Il | 62208 | 618-397-2580 | IBM |      | 1-Feb-95 |
| 0033 | Arthur       | Koenig      | Belleville     | Il | 62220 | 618-234-3421 | Ibm |      | 1-Nov-94 |
| 0019 | Dick         | Koerper     | Granite City   | Il | 62040 | 618-452-5110 | Ami |      | 1-Oct-94 |
| 0038 | Scott        | Leathers    | Woodriver      | Il | 62095 | 618-254-0781 | Am  |      | 1-Sep-95 |
| 0003 | George/Clara | McClaskey   | St. Louis      | Mo | 63137 | 314-867-6848 | 64  |      | 1-Oct-94 |
| 0041 | Tom          | McDonald    | Caseyville     | Il | 62232 | 618-344-8017 | IBM |      | 1-May-95 |
| 0034 | Jeffrey      | Miller      | Alton          | Il | 62002 | 618-466-4911 | Ami |      | 1-Nov-94 |
| 0045 | Ken          | Nochta      | Collinsville   | Il | 62234 | 618-344-3678 | Ibm |      | 1-Oct-94 |
| 0030 | John W       | Price       | Millstadt      | Il | 62260 | 618-476-3567 | Ibm |      | 1-Nov-94 |
| 0062 | Earl         | Salmons     | Fairview Hgts  | Il | 62208 | 618-397-5029 | App |      | 1-Jan-99 |
| 0009 | Ruth M       | Shaw        | Collinsville   | Il | 62234 | 618-344-7589 | IBM |      | 1-Sep-95 |
| 0028 | John L       | Sundstrom   | Fairview Hgts. | Il | 62208 | 618-397-7235 | 64  |      | 1-Oct-94 |
| 0027 | Mike         | Taphorn     | Collinsville   | Il | 62234 | 618-345-2197 | AMI |      | 1-Oct-94 |
| 0002 | James E      | Tomlinson   | O'Fallon       | Il | 62269 | 618-624-3872 | Ami |      | 1-Nov-94 |
| 0024 | Everett      | Truttmann   | O'Fallon       | Il | 62269 | 618-632-4735 | 64  |      | 1-May-95 |
| 0018 | Ken          | Welker      | Belleville     | Il | 62221 | 618-234-5901 | Ibm |      | 1-Aug-95 |

## Gateway Computer Club Membership Application

Date \_\_\_\_\_ New/Renewal No. \_\_\_\_\_  
(Circle one)

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ COMPUTER: \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ DISK DRIVE: \_\_\_\_\_  
 CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ MONITOR OR TV: \_\_\_\_\_  
 STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_ PRINTER: \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE #: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ MODEM: \_\_\_\_\_  
 DUES PAID: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ OTHER: \_\_\_\_\_

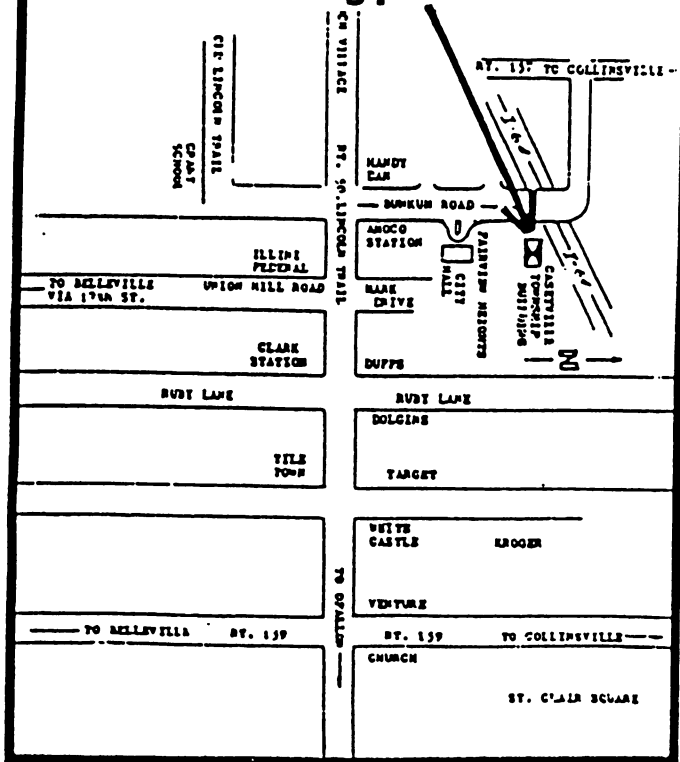
### MEMBERSHIP AGREEMENT

By signing this application and joining the Gateway Computer Club, I hereby agree to abide by the Constitution and By-laws of the GCC. I also will abide with the club rules concerning copyrighted software and will not copy such software at any club function.

I agree to allow my name, address, telephone number and other information provided above to be used by the GCC for club distribution and related mailing lists.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

## Gateway Computer Club meeting place



## GCC Directory

### Next Meeting:

October 19th. 1004 7:00pm

### Next Exec. Bd. Meeting:

Nov. 2nd. 1994 7:00pm  
At the Western Sizzlin  
Fairview Heights Il

### Next Copy Session:

At all regular meetings

### Visitors Always Welcome

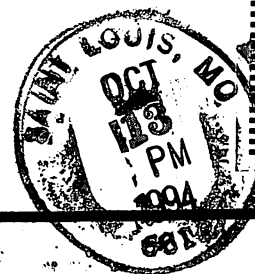
### At Meetings

Meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at the Caseyville Township Hall, 10010 Bunkum Road in Fairview Heights



**GATEWAY COMPUTER CLUB**

101 Spring Glen  
Collinsville, Il 62234



Check your dues date!

# First Class

# ***Bits & Chips***

## **of the Gateway Computer Club**

Volume 11

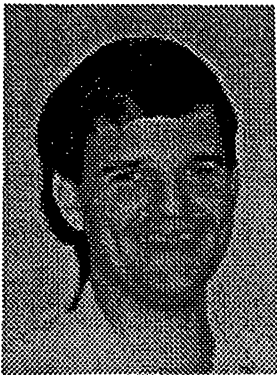
November 1994

Number 11

### **President's Page**

By Mike Taphorn

#### ***Election Time***



Well, the entire board was re-elected in one motion of the membership. I bet there are a lot of politicians wishing they had it so good. Thanks for electing me again and I look forward to another year of being the Pres. I would like to thank all of the board members for their hard work and

dedication. We wouldn't have a club without them. Thanks...

#### ***Commodore News...***

In fear of sounding like a broken record, there is still no definite news on Commodore. Dick Koerper is waiting until November 4th to do his article because something is supposed to happen by then. I don't know if he'll have any new info or not...Check out his article in this issue.

#### ***New look for Bits & Chips***

I've been told that the faces of our normal article writers, including myself, are going to be part of this newsletter. I really appreciate all the work Larry Briggs, our editor, has done to help keep the newsletter exciting. Make sure to tell Larry what you think of the new look...

#### ***New SIG***

Our request for people for a Modem SIG had a great response. The board members decided to try and

get together at my house on Saturday, November 19th at 1:00 p.m. I hope this day will work for everyone. I'll have maps with directions at the November meeting. If you cannot make it this time... Don't Worry (Be Happy), we are planning on having a SIG meeting at least once every month for the next couple of months if possible.

#### ***DEMO THIS MONTH***

This month's demo will be the new user utilities disk that we have for both the IBM compatibles and Amigas. We also are going to review the D.O.M.'s for November as usual.

#### ***Joke of the Month***

The efficiency expert concluded his factory lecture with a warning: "Don't try these task-organizing tips at home." "Why not?" asked a worker. "I did a study on my wife's routine fixing breakfast," explained the lecturer. "She made a lot of trips between the refrigerator, stove, table and cupboards, often carrying only one item, 'Hon,' I suggested, 'why don't you try carrying several things at once?'" "Did it save time?" "Actually, yes. It used to take her 20 minutes to get breakfast. Now I do it in seven."

#### ***Christmas Is Near***

We had a good response to the idea of having a Christmas Party this year. A lot of members signed up to bring food. We'll have the food list at the November meeting for everyone who missed it at the October meeting. Earl suggested that the club purchase food with our club funds. Ken Welker offered to pick up a platter of cold cuts if the club paid for them. We will still need a lot of other items like plates and napkins and other foods. Please sign up so we know what we need to get.. Thanks for your support.

***See you at the meeting.***



# Reports

## The Club

The Gateway Computer Club is a not-for-profit organization of like-minded computer users. Membership fee is \$15.00 per year. Members receive access to the club's public domain library, educational programs, literature and monthly Bits & Chips Newsletter.

Direct all membership applications and questions to the Gateway Computer Club c/o Mike Taphorn, 101 Spring Glen, Collinsville IL 62234

Only public domain programs are kept in the G.C.C. library. Reproduction of copyrighted software is not promoted nor condoned by the G.C.C. and will not be tolerated at club functions.

## The Officers

PRES: Mike Taphorn.....345-2197  
V.P.: Diego Cardenas.....624-6493  
SEC: John Hubbard.....345-1934  
TRES: Ken Welker.....234-5901  
EDITOR: Larry Briggs.....345-0220  
LIBR: Richard Koerper.....452-5110  
ASST LIBR: (AMIGA).....Jim Tomlinson  
ASST LIBR: (MS-DOS).....Ken Welker  
MEMBERSHIP: Larry Briggs.....345-0220

## Bits & Chips

Please direct all submissions and advertising to Editor Larry Briggs, 1021 Lafayette Ct. Collinsville, IL 62234. Camera ready advertising must be received by the first of the month to be included in the issue of the month.

Rates are as follows: Full page- \$15.00, Half page- \$7.50, Quarter page- \$3.75, and business card- \$10.00 for 6 months.

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## Membership Report

Larry Briggs

Lets all give a big welcome to new members. Marshall Bush.

THANKS AGAIN for continuing Their membership with us. Mike Taphorn, Ken Nocht and Richard koerper.

I would like to inform these members that their membership will expire this Coming meeting. Dave Dawson, Tony Burke, Marvin Hirschman, Art Koenig, John Price, Jeffrey Miller, and James Tomlinson.

These Members will be dropped as they have not renewed their membership. Laura Blackwell, John Sundstrom and George & Clara McClaskey.

If you have any questions about your membership, See Larry Briggs at the meeting, or call 345-0220.

## Treasure's Report

Balance Oct. 1, 1994.....\$904.85

I D.O.M. CARDS.....\$ 10.00  
N D.O.M. DISKS.....\$ 14.00  
C BLANK DISKS 3.5.....\$ 66.00  
O BLANK DISKS 5.25.....\$ 2.00  
M MEMBERSHIP.....\$ 60.00  
E 50/50.....\$ 7.50

OCT. INCOME.....\$ 159.50

E  
X  
P NEWS LETTER.....\$ 25.00  
E POSTAGE.....\$ 10.44  
N HALL RENTAL.....\$50.00  
E  
S

OCT. EXPENSES.....\$ 85.44

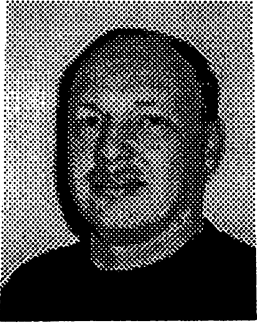
CURRENT BALANCE.....\$978.91

AS OF NOV. 1, 1994....

## Amiga D.O.M. Nov. 94

by Jim Tomlinson

### AMICDROM



AmiCDROM is a CDROM disk filing system for the Commodore Amiga. It supports the ISO-9660 standard, the Rock Ridge Interchange Protocol and the Macintosh HFS format. The CDROM drive is mounted as a DOS

device (e.g. CD0:). You can access files and directories on a CDROM disk by the usual syntax, e.g. "type cd0:foo/readme.txt".

### CACHEFONT

- CacheFont is a little utility that makes accessing your fonts significantly quicker -- in fact, near instant. I was always annoyed when using any programs on my Amiga which involved fonts by the fact that when the program went to see what fonts were available, I was presented with a rather lengthy wait.

### LASERBIKES

- LaserBikes is a well written version of the old TRON bike game.

### TURBOCALC

- TurboCalc is a spreadsheet that rivals many of the best on the PC. Everything is intuition driven but this is only a DEMO version.

## Amiga Special DOM Nov 94

### BUSH

- Many of you may have seen Tree on PC machines. Bush is similar to Tree. Bush produces directory listings showing the structure of a directory and all sub-directories.

### CHSCRUNCH

- A whole disk cruncher/decruncher. Runs from CLI.

### DOCTORSTRANGE

- This is a neat game originally written for a magazine contest. Looks professional!

### ISRIP

- Here's a simple way to add RIP screens to terminal programs that don't

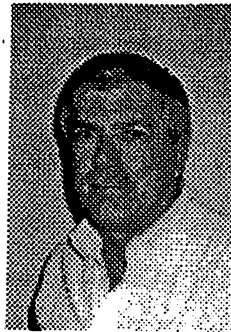
support them already.

### PPACK

- PPack is a fast PowerPacker data "cruncher" and "decruncher". The size of the speedup buffer is chosen depending on the available memory. Requires OS 2.0 or above and Powerpacker library.

## MS-DOS D.O.M. Nov. 94

Ken Welker



### GEOCLK.COM

GeoClock shows the current time (based on your computer's clock) with a high quality map of the earth. The current sun position is displayed, and the parts of the earth in sunlight and twilight are highlighted. This display

is automatically updated every few seconds. Local sunrise, sunset, the sun's azimuth and elevation, and times around the world are also displayed. A variety of map backgrounds and other options are available.

### GTG.COM

The ultimate adventure! Get the Girl! The art of romance. Test your manly skills by trying to pick up the girl, in this graphical adventure with 256 color images, sound track and special effects. Req: Win 3.1, SoundCard preferred.

### LSIGN.COM

\*\*\*\*\* (c) Learn to Sign \*\*\*\*\*

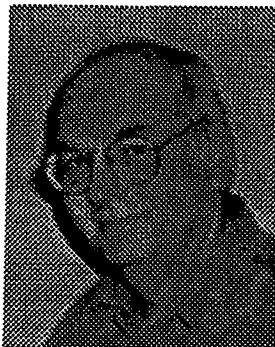
DESCRIPTION: Learn to Sign is a tutor program aimed at teaching the American Sign Language. This release supports 'finger spelling' and support for actual signs such as hello, mother, colors, and other common words.

### MO.COM

Midnight Oil, also known as "La Belle Lucie" and "Three Shuffles and a Draw", is one of the few solitaire card games that offers both challenging play and a reasonable chance to win. It is also highly addictive; once you get into it, you'll be "burning the midnight oil" more often than not.

## THE LIBRARIAN'S SHELVES

By Dick Koerper



Well it's Saturday November 5th and the last installment on the Amiga World hot-line is dated October 19th. So there is nothing to report from there. It is said that no news is good news, but let's face it in this situation any news is welcomed.

On the homefront, anyone interested in the Amiga who missed the Gateway Amiga Club Amiga Show last Saturday missed getting a shot in the arm to raise your spirits in realizing that we are definitely not alone. Ground support for the Amiga is every bit as strong among the true believers as it has ever been.

The keynote address was given by Dale Larsen a former Commodore software engineer who has a new book out on connecting the Amiga to the Internet and networking the Amiga to PC's and Macs. Aptly titled 'Connect Your Amiga, A Guide To The Internet, LANS, BBS's and Online Services' (\$24.95).

Picked up two games while I was there, one was 'Frontier Elite' a much upgraded version of the original "Elite", and a small little game called 'Beneath A Steel Sky', by small I mean fifteen (15) disks long and took me an hour and a half to install on my A3000 harddrive. The game play is very intuitive and so far as I have gotten into it, it is enjoyable with just the right touch of humor for a futuristic cyberpunk genre game.

New on the market according to ads in Amiga World Dec.'94. Final Writer will be released hopefully by the end of November with an upgrade offer from any wordprocessor, the A2200 is being advertised by Computer Answers out of Canada. It is a 68020 based machine upgradeable to 68040 with a 210 meg harddrive, 2 megs chip ram and 2 fast ram upgradeable to 8 megs fast.

Also advertised is something called PAWS the Portable Amiga Workstation to turn your Amiga (not sure which models) into a laptop. Lastly there is a fairly new Amiga Magazine on the market 'The Amiga Game Zone' dedicated to games on all Amiga Models. Hope to bring samples of the Mag to the meeting.

## MINUTES

By John Hubbard



Oct 19/94 Meeting opened at 7:08pm by Pres. Taphorn. Tres. report Membership report Sec. Minutes were all accepted as printed in the Bits and Chips. Nominations: A motion was made and 2ed by membership to keep all officers where they are. It was voted on and passed, Nominations were closed. Dont forget to sign up for food to bring to the Christmas party. Every one have a wonderful Thanksgiving. The pres. closed the meeting at 7:49pm

## Editor's Note

By Larry Briggs



I demonstrated the color scanner last month, all went fine with a little help from Tom McDonald, he has had his scanner for a few month's and has learned more about it than I have. Thanks Tom.

I have added more pictures to the Bits & Chips, I hope it meets with your approval. I will in the future try to include some pictures of some activities from the clubs functions.

We, the club, needs your help in increasing the clubs membership, try to being a friend or someone that you know has recently purchased a new computer or perhaps someone that has one in the closet not being used because they don't know how to use it, we have helped many of you members with some of your problems and we would like the opportunity to help other new members to use their computers and to become one of us."HACKERS".

I still need articles to print in the Bits & Chips. It is your newsletter so be a reporter and write an article once in a while. I got a full page report from Rich Collins this month. Thank Rich.

The board members wish all a bountiful and happy Thanksgiving.

# PC'S BYTE THE BIG ONE

Richard L. Collins

Scott Leathers and I recently had the typical IBM delight of Plug & Pray, which in our case the Pray failed. He and I together built a 386-DX40. The initial configuration had a 340 Meg Hard Drive, an SVGA monitor with 4 megabytes of ram. His goal was a "multimedia" equivalent so he could run some of the latest CD-ROM sports and dungeon titles, albeit slower aka 386-40.

After the initial success, we put in a Sony SUN-MOON-STAR CD drive, four more megs of ram, and added a Pro Audio 16 bit sound card. CD Controllers are often found on current sound cards, but not this one. The sequel to the popular shareware game of DOOM started the recent frustration and prompted this document.

Scott bought the DOOM CD, motivated by its ability to play over a modem and the fact his friend had bought one so they could play with or against each other, via modem.

The modem, an early 9600 Practical Peripherals, was not on DOOM's list of supported modems. Scott reasoned that since the game did in fact work on his friend's machine, he should replace the modem with one like his friend's, a ZOOM 14.4 Fax Modem, which seemed reasonable at \$60 at Best Buy.

He replaced the modem. He worked the first long evening alone in an attempt to get it functioning. He called me and we spent the next two long evenings doing the same thing. Specifically, the symptoms were the modem would only sometimes come up, and when it did it was sluggish and intermittent.

After trial and error, we discovered clicking the mouse would cause the modem signal to become both more and less intermittent. The answer seemed obvious. The IRQ settings on the I/O card were in a direct conflict with the new modem. Besides, the msd program from DOS 6 said there were 3 com ports in use being 1, 2 and 3 while the jumpers on the modem were set for com 4

We hurried down to Plato's and got a replacement I/O controller. Do I have to say that it gave us exactly the same results as the old one? Of course, this meant the cable was most likely faulty, and of course, it didn't make any difference either. At least, it did convince us the I/O card was not the culprit.

The next thought was the modem, especially since msd said com port 3 existed and 4 did not, even though it was jumped as 4. The bug was Crosstalk software recognized it as port 4, while COMit software would only call out the same device on port 3.

There is something definitely not right here, I thought. I yanked every card from the system, putting in only the video and I/O card. The com ports worked. I put in the modem and it worked too. Next, I put in the CD controller and everything still worked. Finally,

I put in the sound card and the system failed. At last, we found where the real problem was. Scott ordered a pizza as we started working on solving it.

We looked at the card and saw four different groups of jumpers, numbered J2, J14, J15, AND J9. The typical owners manual said that jumpers had been replaced with firmware and the only ones at all to be concerned about were J2 and J16, which didn't exist. It only gave us the J2 settings. Scott called the Pro Audio help line, and while we waited the 25 minutes for them to pick up the phone, we enjoyed the pizza.

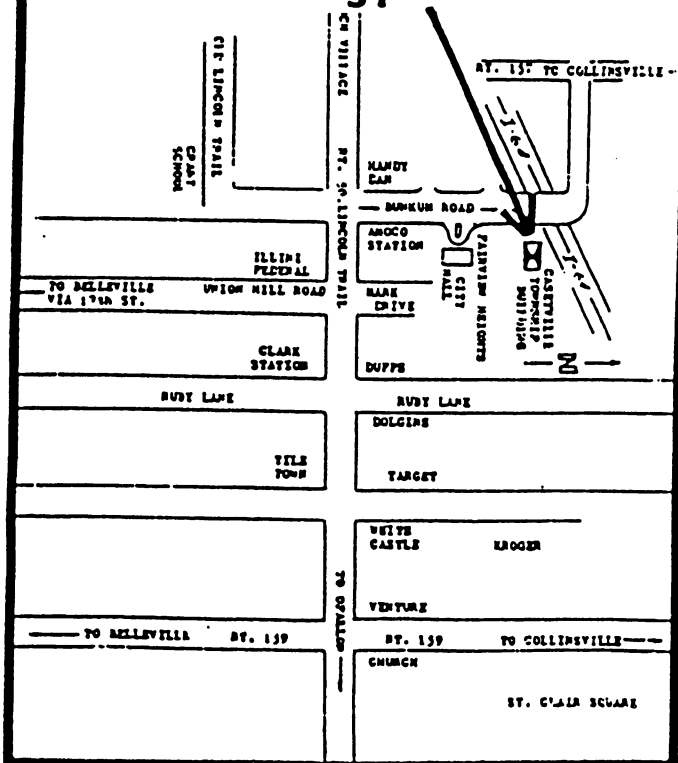
On line with their Tech rep, I described the system to him. He was disappointed since I didn't know the DMA number the Sony CD used, but hey, I don't even know what a DMA is; I spell damn differently. After giving him the secret card code, he called it on his system and proceeded giving me instructions on what NEW setting to put J9 on, which was never mentioned anywhere in the docs. Basically, it gave the card a new DMA number.

Following his instructions, I edited the config.sys, autoexec.bat, and system. ini files. After these altercations, it all worked; the com ports, the sound card, the I/O card, all of it. I guess a good analogy is Sweet & Sour. A soundcard doc stating the function of the jumpers would have saved Pro Audio a call and us much effort.

I'm convinced computer business does not like anything simple or user friendly. All they want is to suck as much dough as possible; following the auto industry lead, if something is simple, people do it themselves, which is interpreted as bad for business.

I will commend the Pro Audio person. He knew his job, and was very, almost overly, patient with me. Taking 25 minutes to answer the phone was acceptable, I guess, since we had pizza and a little time to consume. The final short-term results are good. The long term results are devastating. Each and every problem I run into like this one scares me off even further from adding any new devices or something as simple as buying a program because of problems it may cause and will definitely cause, which is what the industry wants.

## Gateway Computer Club meeting place



## GCC Directory

### Next Meeting:

November 19th, 1994 7:00pm

### Next Exec. Bd. Meeting:

Dec. 2nd.1994 7:00pm  
At the Western Sizzlin  
Fairview Heights Il.

### Next Copy Session:

At all regular Meetings

### Visitors Always Welcome

### At Meetings

Meetings are held the third Wednesday of every month at the Caseyville Township Hall, 10010 Bunkum Road in Fairview Heights



**GATEWAY COMPUTER CLUB**

101 Spring Glen  
Collinsville, Il 62234



Check your dues date!

# First Class

# ***Bits & Chips***

**of the Gateway Computer Club**

Volume 11

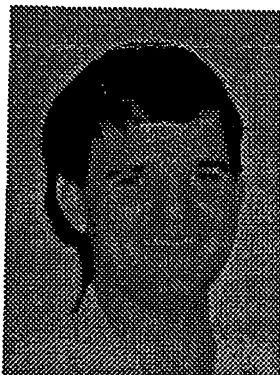
December 1994

Number 12

## **MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR**

### **President's Page**

By Mike Taphorn



#### ***Merry Christmas and Happy New Year***

I had to write this article earlier than usual because I am going on vacation during the first week of December and I'll miss the board meeting. To every one of our members and their families, the board members and I would

like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Party**

**Party**

**Party**

Remember, the December meeting is essentially going to be one big party. Please bring some of your favorite foods and beverages and share the holiday spirit with your friends at the meeting. Please bring your spouses and children... everyone is welcome. This would be a great time to introduce your friends to the club. I for one plan on enjoying myself and eating too much.

#### ***New SIG***

We had our first meeting of the Modem SIG at my house on November 19th. We started off by calling the bulletin board that our vice president Diego is a member of

The Fantasy Island BBS. We logged in, looked around a bit, and downloaded a couple files for practice. After calling Fantasy Island, we called the Dark Room BBS and found out what it was all about. I think that we had a good response and everyone learned that bulletin boards can be fun. After exploring the local boards, we went to Tony Burke's house and called America On-line. America On-line had a very colorful and detailed interface that made the local BBS's look like something from the stone age. It was very impressive and I hope that we can take another look at it at one of the future modem SIG meetings. If you did not make it for the meeting, don't worry, we are planning on having another SIG meeting sometime in January 1995. I would have liked to have one in December, but I think the Christmas rush would prevent us from finding an open date on our calendars. We'll discuss future meeting dates at the December meeting so bring your planning calendars.

#### ***DEMO THIS MONTH***

We are going to review the D.O.M.'s for December.

#### ***Joke of the Month***

This Joke won the "Best Politically Incorrect Joke" award in a local competition. Please do not write any hate mail to me.... Here goes...

Hillary Clinton is on an elevator when it stops at a floor and Rush Limbaugh gets on. All of a sudden, Hillary pushes the emergency stop button and rips off her clothes yelling, "Rush treat me like a real woman!" So Rush takes off his clothes, throws them at her and says, "O.K., IRON THESE!"

See you at the meeting (Party).

Mike

# Reports

## The Club

The Gateway Computer Club is a not-for-profit organization of like-minded computer users. Membership fee is \$15.00 per year. Members receive access to the club's public domain library, educational programs, literature and monthly Bits & Chips Newsletter.

Direct all membership applications and questions to the Gateway Computer Club c/o Mike Taphorn, 101 Spring Glen, Collinsville Il 62234

Only public domain programs are kept in the G.C.C. library. Reproduction of copyrighted software is not promoted nor condoned by the G.C.C. and will not be tolerated at club functions.

## The Officers

PRES: Mike Taphorn.....345-2197  
V.P.: Diego Cardenas.....624-6493  
SEC: John Hubbard.....345-1934  
TRES: Ken Welker.....234-5901  
EDITOR: Larry Briggs.....345-0220  
LIBR: Richard Koerper.....452-5110  
ASST LIBR: (AMIGA).....Jim Tomlinson  
ASST LIBR: (MS-DOS).....Ken Welker  
MEMBERSHIP: Larry Briggs.....345-0220

## Bits & Chips

Please direct all submissions and advertising to Editor Larry Briggs, 1021 Lafayette Ct. Collinsville, Il 62234. Camera ready advertising must be received by the first of the month to be included in the issue of the month.

Rates are as follows: Full page- \$15.00, Half page- \$7.50, Quarter page- \$3.75, and business card- \$10.00 for 6 months.

Contents of the Bits & Chips may be reprinted by other club newsletters if accompanied by the author's name and credit is given to the GATEWAY COMPUTER CLUB. The G.C.C. assumes no liability for errors in articles or advertisements.

## Membership Report

Larry Briggs

Lets all give a big welcome to new members. Bill Broda.

THANKS AGAIN for continuing Their membership with us. Art Koenig, Tony Burke, James Tomlinson, and John Sundstrum.

I would like to inform these members that their membership will expire this Coming meeting. Larry Briggs.

These Members will be dropped as they have not renewed their membership. Dave Dawson, Marvi Hirschman, John Price, and Jeffrey Miller,

If you have any questions about your membership, See Larry Briggs at the meeting, or call 345-0220.

## Treasure's Report

by Ken Welker

Balance Nov.1,1994.....\$978.91

D.O.M. CARDS.....\$ 20.00  
N D.O.M. DISKS.....\$ 10.00  
C BLANK DISKS 3.5.....\$ 25.00  
O BLANK DISKS 5.25.....\$ 0.00  
M MEMBERSHIP.....\$ 75.00  
E 50/50.....\$ 8.00

NOV. INCOME.....\$ 138.00

E  
X  
P NEWS LETTER.....\$ 25.00  
E POSTAGE.....\$ 10.44  
N MISC. SUPPLIES.....\$ 7.17  
E BLANK DISKS.....\$ 357.75  
S

NOV. EXPENSES.....\$ 400.36

CURRENT BALANCE.....\$ 716.55

AS OF DEC. 1, 1994

## Amiga D.O.M. DEC. 94

By Jim Tomlinson



**BUTLERJAMES** - ButlerJames is a full featured label making program for AmigaDOS 2.X or higher. What sets it apart from all the others is it's ability to remain resident in memory awaiting your favorite keystroke to bring it to life.

### **CHECKERSCONQUEST** -

This Checkers game has lots of features that are useful to play however you might want to. It has options to play against the computer, in four varying levels that can give anyone a challenge. You can also play against another human player, or watch the computer play against itself. You can also select two different checker designs.

**EZSAY** - EzSay was programmed because the "official" Commodore Say utility just wasn't good enough. With the appearance of KickStart 2.0+ Commodore are still using the archaic utility they supplied with machines that came with WorkBench 1.2! The actual speech output from the Amiga is not great but it is a lot better than what other machines can offer, 16 bit or not. Obviously it is written only for OS 2.0 or higher!

**IBM-EMULATOR2.04** - This is the "official" version of the IBM emulator that was originally released by Commodore. This is update 2.04 for OS 2.04 or above. This program will NOT work on any processor but the 68000! If I can scrape it up, there is supposed to be a 680x0 version floating around also that I will try to put on another DOM.

## Amiga Special Disk of the Month for Dec 1994

**DF** - Delight Fantastic - An adult board game for the Amiga. This is a special demo version of the game that should give you an idea of how the game plays, without actually being the game. The board and cards have been modified to be non-explicit. There are actions such as "Wash your car." Obviously, this is not true of the registered version.

**WRITE** - Write is a stellar class wordprocessor to rival Microsoft Word in capabilities. Unfortunately, the documentation is in German, but it's very intuitive.

## MS-DOS D.O.M. DEC.. 94

Ken Welker



### **CTDESK73.EXE**

#### **CITY-DESK Ver 7.31**

This version of CITY-DESK is fully functional and will operate without any restrictions. This is Shareware and may be redistributed provided the original archive with no modifications is supplied.

### **DLS200.EXE**

**DLS v2.00** DLS is a fully functional shareware program designed to read the main directory files and any subdirectory files from all types of 3-1/2" and 5-1/4" diskettes in the A or B drive and then print a label or disk insert (for 5-1/4" diskettes) on your printer. You may also read any drive that DOS recognizes from C to Z.

### **MCOOKI36.EXE**

**MicroCook v1.36** Recipe database program for DOS from NORski Software. Easy to use menus and editors with full mouse support .2000+ recipes per database and number of data bases only limited by disk space. ASCII Export and Import. Import Meal-Master(tm) ASCII recipes. Duplicate recipe checking. Powerful searches in index and database. Mark recipes as deleted in Index or editor. 250 recipes included. Work great in Windows too.

### **MINIGOLF.EXE**

CLUBWARE presents VGA miniature golf ... **POWER PUTT GOLF!** Miniature golf game

### **SCORCHI2.EXE**

**Scorched Earth v1.2:** 256 color VGA artillery game that allows up to 10 players to blow each other to bits. Tons of configurable options including weapons, defense mechanisms, weather, economics, etc. Can also be played by one person against various computer foes.

### **ISUALIB.EXE**

Visualib is a comprehensive state-of-the-art graphics library for Microsoft Windows environment. It contains powerful and efficient functions to transform and display both 2D and 3D graphic objects. Visualib can be used with either Microsoft Windows Software Development Kit version 3.0 or Borland C++ version 2.0 and up.

### **AMIGA**

The Emulator runs only with VGA Card, Microsoft compatible Mouse and a minimum of 512K extended memory. The mouse has to be Microsoft compatible on COM1: Kickstart 1.2, Version 33.192 will be emulated. There is no hardware emulation, so only "clean" programed stuff will run. (slowly) The boot drive is Drive A, and if this is a 5" you have to make a copy of the 3 1/2....



## Diego's Diary - Adventures with the Amiga

by Diego Cardenas

I have returned! We all know the status of the Amiga these days and it has been depressing. I recently bought a Dauphin 1050 laptop computer on sale at Grandpa's which you probably saw at the December meeting. As of this writing, I'm not sure if I am going to hang on to it or not. I'm mainly concerned about expandability so hopefully, Jim Tomlinson who also owns one, will be able to give me some pointers.

On the Amiga front, I have decided to include some articles from the November 8th, 1994 issue (#2.31) of Amiga Reports. This is a weekly bulletin that is available from many bulletin board systems (BBS's). I am including excerpts to let you know what is available on-line in the BBS world and because it is much easier than coming up with an original article. ;-)

The ";-)" that I just typed is BBS lingo for a wink. Turn the page 1/4 turn clockwise and you will see that the semi-colon becomes a wink, the dash becomes a nose, and the close parenthesis becomes a smile. Enjoy the articles! Hopefully, you'll recognize the changes in font (letter styles) to recognize what I typed and what was part of Amiga Reports.

It's becoming downright infuriating.

The rest of the computer world marches on as Pentiums get (relatively) dirt cheap and Apple tries to convince the US market that there's a Mac your 3 year old kid can do a video presentation on that will get you a promotion at work. And the waiting continues for the Amiga buyout to be completed.

November 4th was another one of those "guidelines", this time for Commodore UK's MBO to sign their contract. If they did sign it, by the rules of the buyout, the proceedings will go to a public bid in a month, at which point any party that wants to can bid for the Amiga, and the last bid is the one for the most money.

However, CEI, unhappy with the way things were going, decided to go to the liquidators with a new proposal: They would sign a new contract, based on their own private bid, and take the Amiga immediately, asking that the public bid be eliminated.

This was the middle of last week. On November 4th, I was unable to reach either CEI or C= UK, and a call to the liquidator's office told me he wasn't in. Today (Monday), my budget only allowed me to try calling CEI, and neither Alex Amor nor Dave DiFelici were in.

In short, I don't know anything at this point. If something momentous happens, Amiga Report readers will be the first people I tell. Just hold on...a bit longer...

Jason (Compton, editor of Amiga Reports)

PS - As this issue is going out, CEI has had a contract written up to purchase the Amiga. The liquidators met with them Monday in CEI's hometown, and are now going over the contract. C= UK has not yet signed their own contract. If they don't, and CEI does sign, it will go up for court approval.

## MINUTES

By John Hubbard

The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by president Mike Taphorn.

The minutes and financial reports were accepted as printed in the Bits & Chips. A discussion was held regarding the Christmas Party on december 21st. and all members was reminded to bring some kind of food. The club will furnish a plater of meat & cheese. The meeting was closed at 8:00pm  
**Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.**

## THE LIBRARIAN'S SHELVES

By Dick Koerper

It's Saturday December 10th and the latest update on the Amiga World hotline is dated November 22nd. At that time C.E.I. was the frontrunner and they were just waiting for C.E.I. to come in and sign the papers to allow the final round of bids to start.

If you remember in a previous article I reported that the bid was going to Commodore U.K. and they were expected to sign the agreement with the trustees and then the bids would be opened up for one last round allowing C.E.I. and the group out of the Netherlands to give one last bid and the Commodore U.K. group before the actual sale is made. Well for some reason unknown to me Commodore U.K. never showed up to sign the agreement. So the ball is now in C.E.I.'s court as they have been given the same offer the U.K. group was given with the same stipulations. Confused? Well don't feel alone I have an idea that anyone of us could buy General Motors with a lot less hassle.

One of the things that has kept C.E.I. from rushing in to sign is that they have found a warehouse that is filled with computer boxes that all have yet to be inventoried.

Bottom line is that the legal system is so concerned that Commodore's creditors receive as much money as they can, a great computer is being allowed to die a slow death. I can only hope that a final deal can be made before the Amiga has passed the point of resuscitation.

I hope to have updated information for you by meeting time, but quite frankly I am not holding my breath.

## Editor's Note

By Larry Briggs

My oh My, Christmas is only 14 days away, where has the year gone. It seems the older I get the faster the time flies, I can remember when I was a child, it seemed an eternity between the Christmas holidays.

I have the laptop I purchased at Grandpa's working fine, even the mouse works now, thanks to a 40 minute phone call to Microsoft, (on my own nickel) they do not have an 800 number for help on setting up hardware or software. I saw in Sunday's newspaper ad that Grandpa's have more of these laptop computers for sale for \$595.

As you can see I am getting more articles to print from our members, I sure do appreciate these articles as it makes it much easier to put out an newsletter. thanks very much, keep them coming. To keep the newsletter at six pages, I am forced to use smaller fonts to squeeze everything in, I hope that is not inconvenient. Just crank up your bifocals.

Please do not forget to bring the food you signed up for, but more important do not forget to come and bring your family. Merry Christmas to all.

# ONE EASY WAY TO A FIND A FILE (DOS)

Richard L Collins

Is there an easy way to see if a particular file exists anywhere on a hard disk or CD, especially those with multiple levels and massive subdirectories? Yes, there is; at least kind of easy.

Most readers are aware of the dos command DIR, which lists the files in a directory. They are also aware of the /w option for a WIDE listing of file names only. Slightly more obscure are the /S option for listing subdirectories, and /P for pausing the screen scroll. One more useful option is the /O-<N or D or S> for a directory listing by name, date, or size of the file.

You can enter HELP DIR for these options of just DIR /?. The /? option works with several dos commands for syntax help. Examples:

DIR /? (help with the DIR command)  
DIR /S (lists directories and subs from the current one)  
DIR D:/S (lists directories and subs on CDROM drive D)  
DIR D:/S/P (includes a pause every 24 lines, so you can read it)  
DIR D:/S/O-S (sorts the files in the directories by size)  
DIR D:/S/O-N (sorts the files in the directories by name)  
DIR D:/S/O-D/P (sorts the files by date, and pauses too)

The DIR command lists the directory to the screen unless it is redirected to a printer or disk file illustrated below. The symbol for redirection is > which is sometimes "greater than".

DIR /S (lists directories and subs to the screen)  
DIR /S >PRN (lists directories and subs to the printer)  
DIR /S >C:DIRLIST.TXT (creates a C drive textfile DIRLIST.TXT)

Now, instead of searching these directories yourself visually, let the computer do the searching for you, via piping.

The DIR can be PIPED. Piping means sending output of one command to another command (instead of a device like redirection does.) Piping is the | symbol.

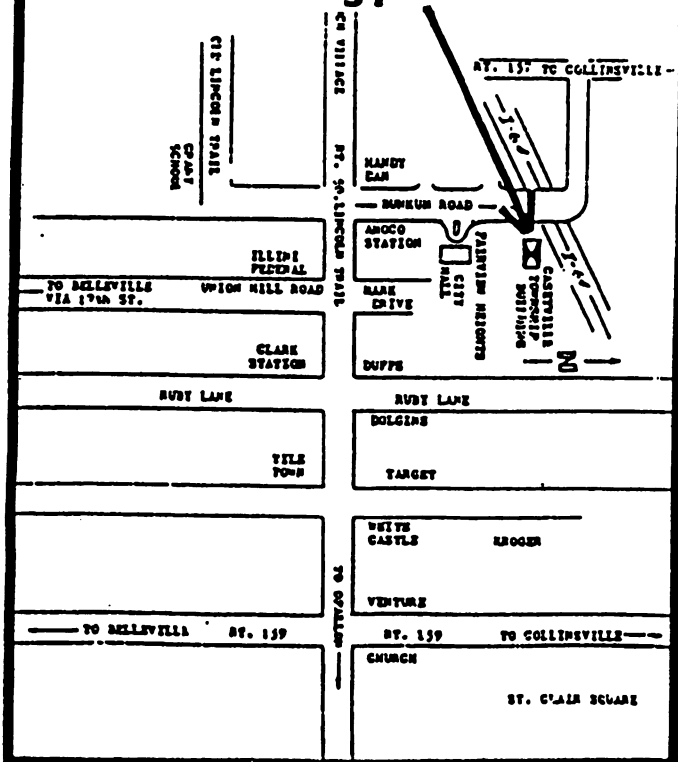
Piping DIR output into the FIND command will search the output for a specific text string. If I would like to know if my 600 megabyte CDROM has the file "LINUX" on it, I would:

**DIR D:/S | FIND "LINUX"**

Note that the command will list all occurrences of LINUX, as in files named ALINUXA.EXE, LINUX.TXT, LLINUX.COM, or any where the uppercase sequence LINUX is found. It searches the entire text line, including name, date, and size.

To ignore the case sensitive search, use FIND's /I option D:IR D:/S | FIND /I "LINUX"  
- will find ..linuX.. & ..Linux, etc.

## Gateway Computer Club meeting place



## GCC Directory

### Next Meeting:

December 21st. 1994 7:00pm

### Next Exec. Bd. Meeting:

Jan. 4th 1995 7:00pm  
At the WESTERN SIZZLIN  
Fairview Heights, Il.

### Next Copy Session:

At all regular meetings

### Visitors Always Welcome

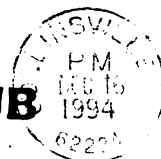
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Collinsville, Il 62234



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# First Class